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#BharatChina

THE REAL INCURSION

Xi Jinping's CCP is cornered domestically by the protests. The Chinese intent behind the misadventure in the Tawang sector is to divert attention from the same. Our armed forces are capable enough to handle any attempts of incursions on the borders. It is a matter of concern that certain voices stand up in Bharat to peddle Beijing's narrative

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सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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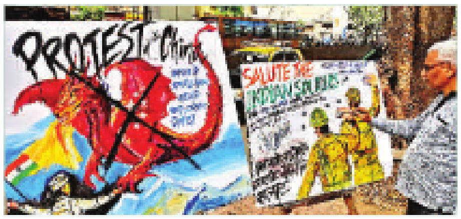

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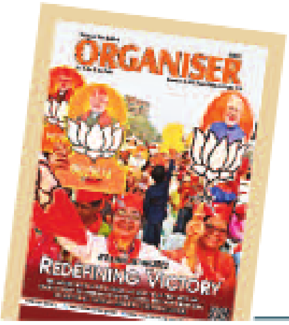
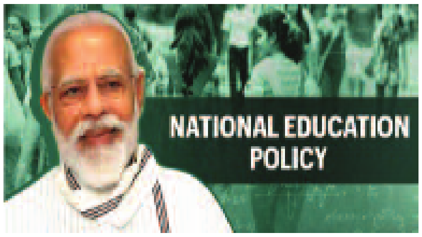
READERS' FORUM



Revive Dharma-Based Values

APROPOS 'Changing the Prism', *Organiser*, December 11. The East India Company while subjugating India physically and economically instilled an intellectual slavery in Indian minds. The literate Indians enamoured by the Western literature and values failed to give due importance to our rich literature and high values based on Dharma in every sphere. It is high time we take measures to liberate us from intellectual slavery. Steps are already taken to remove symbols of slavery. The NEP is expected to change the direction of education to revive and restore old values. Instead of learning a biased Indian history, students should be given an opportunity to understand the real history of India.



DHARMARAJAN AK, *Thalassery*

Evacuate Islamists From Satras

APROPOS 'Sacred Satras Under Siege', *Organiser*, December 18. It is a matter of concern that age-old Assamese institutions are now being illegally occupied by Muslims. Author Dibya Bordoloi rightly described these institutions of Vaishnavism as the heart and soul of Assamese culture. However, they are now facing an existential crisis due to encroachment by migrant Musims who have a hidden agenda. What is deeply disturbing is that Islamists have made this Veer Bhoomi (Land of Braves), which produced Lachit Barphukan, who single handedly prevented Aurangzeb's soldiers from occupying Assam thereby preventing them from conquering South East Asia, land of Mohammadans. That this systematic encroachment started even before Bharat attained Independence reflects the mentality of Muslims who wanted to divide the nation on religious grounds and have an independent Islamic nation. Against this backdrop, Dr Himanta Biswa Sarma-led BJP Government needs to be applauded for constituting a Commission to assess and review the encroachment problem on the land belonging to the Vaishnavite monasteries.

RAJESH KHURANA, *Lajpat Nagar*

Resurrect the Forgotten Hero

APROPOS 'A Satyagrahi Who Knew The Act of Living and Dying', *Organiser*, December 18. It was an enlightening experience while going through the real life story of Bharatiya braveheart, Kushan Konwar. It was also painful to go through his sacrifice to attain independence of our motherland from the colonial rulers. This exceptionally brave patriot from Assam, who became a vegetarian and whose only companion was *Shrimad Bhagawad Gita*, chose martyrdom without compromising on his principles. However, history books written by Britishers and later post-Independence when the Congress regime was at the Centre, whitewashed his achievements as they wanted to portray immoral Mughals as great rulers. The fact is that they were not representative of either Bharat or Bharatiya culture. Therefore, the Centre needs to ensure that a detailed chapter on the life and martyrdom of this valiant freedom fighter is written for school students.

LALIT MEHRA, *Madhu Vihar*

Cong's Hidden Agenda On China

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah is correct when he pointed out how Congress, which has been a beneficiary of Chinese donations, had no business to disrupt question hour in Lok Sabha in a bid to corner the Modi Government at Centre even though a statement by Defence Minister on the events in Tawang had been slotted. While the Centre gave free hand to our soldiers to wipe out Chinese intruders, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation was busy collecting funds from the enemy nation.

DEEPAK MUKIM, *Chandni Chowk*

Editorial

The Real Incursion

In the name of zero-COVID-19 policy, the Xi Jinping-led Communist regime of China imposed ridiculous restrictions on its people while opening the nation to foreign tourists. Despite that COVID-19 related deaths continued. Amidst frustrating regulations, a deadly fire broke out in Urumqi city of Xinjiang on November 24, 2022, killing ten people, including three children. The protests erupted all over China, spreading across fifty-one universities which have been demanding freedom from the Communist Party of China's (CCP) dictatorial regime. Such a reminder of the Tiananmen Square of 1989 was not a good sign for the yet-to-be-started third term of Xi Jinping. The CCP hurriedly announced nationwide loosening of Coronavirus restrictions, which was not enough to assuage the sentiments. Xi Jinping opted for a diversion like any other dictator -incursion in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh on December 9, 2022. Bharatiya soldiers gave a befitting reply and forced the Chinese to return to their post. Reportedly, nine Bharatiya and twenty-two Chinese soldiers got injured in the physical combat.

Naturally, political and social media voices reacted to the border clash. As per the Parliamentary tradition, the demand for a statement from the Government was also understandable. Accordingly, the Defence Minister informed the Parliament about the incident and the subsequent flag meeting involving local commanders. But it was shocking to see the celebratory mood of some of the social media handles and attempts to score brownie points by a few political leaders.

China's incursion tactics are not new. Since the 1950s, it has been playing a mind game with Bharat. Now and then, China tries to violate the LAC it had agreed to in the 1962 ceasefire. Barring a few exceptions, previously, Bharat's response to such misadventures has not been very assertive.

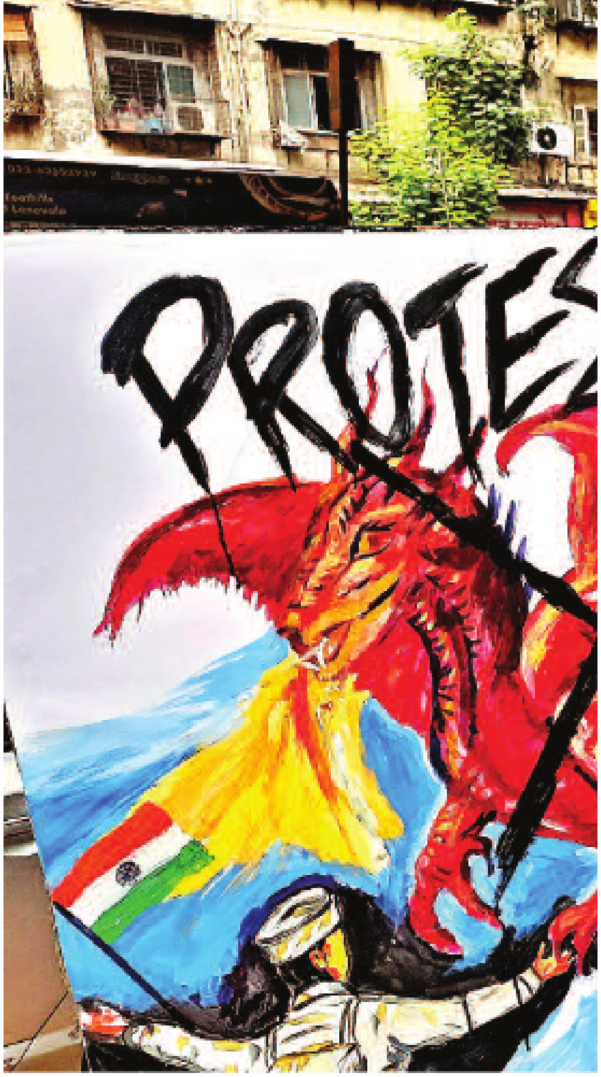
The situation changed fast after 2015, with defence projects in bordering areas getting exemption from environmental clearance. It allowed improved infrastructure along the borders, strengthening village communities and quick mobilisation of troops. Chinese are well aware that the old game cannot continue now.

Though the situation in border areas has changed, the communist intellectual infiltration in our democracy still continues. From 1955 onwards, Nehru not only allowed a submissive policy towards China to creep in but also allowed the CCP to build a pro-China constituency within Bharat. From standing and defending Maoist insurgency to creating awe about the so-called Chinese progress, this lobby successfully bats for Beijing. They will never utter a word against China regarding the blatant human rights violations but will not miss a chance to criticise the Bharatiya democracy. Leaders of the Communist parties of Bharat participate in the centenary year celebrations of the CCP, and nobody questions them. Media houses take full-page advertisements from the CCP and, in return, play Chinese narrations. Rajiv Gandhi Foundation accepted donations from the Chinese Embassy in 2005, and the Congress party signed a consultative agreement with the CCP while ruling the country in 2008 without giving any explanation to the nation. The film and entertainment industry has become a new investment ground for the CCP, and celebrities earning through that source take pride in mocking our Armed Forces. Some scholars even dare to discredit the warnings given by Sardar Patel to Prime Minister Nehru way back in 1950. Champions of the Maoist revolution masquerading as Human Rights activists get financial support to fight their battles.

With the growing economic might, China has successfully invested in academia, media and think tanks to peddle its narrative in Bharat and worldwide. China is using cyberspace effectively to create dissent in democracies. This Chinese incursion in our mind space is much more dangerous. Our soldiers can handle the situation on the borders as they know the enemy's intent. The real challenge is to expose the Chinese operators within and deal with them intellectually and legally.

twitter @PrafullaKetkar

> **"Hitherto, the Communist party of India has found some difficulty in contacting communists abroad, or in getting supplies of arms, literature, etc., from them. They had to contend with the difficult Burmese and Pakistan frontiers on the east with the long seaboard. They shall now have a comparatively easy means of access to Chinese communists and, through them, to other foreign communists. Infiltration of spies, fifth columnists and communists would now be easier. Instead of having to deal with isolated communist pockets and Telangana and Warangal we may have to deal with communist threats to our security along our northern and north-eastern frontiers, where, for supplies of arms and ammunition, they can safely depend on communist arsenals in China".**
>
> *–Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, in his historic letter dated November 7, 1950, to Pt Jawaharlal Nehru, warning about his China policy*



HOW CHINA IS TRYING TO CAPTURE INDIA FROM WITHIN

XI JINPING'S CCP IS CORNERED DOMESTICALLY BY THE PROTESTS. THE CHINESE INTENT BEHIND THE MISADVENTURE IN THE TAWANG SECTOR IS TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM THE SAME. OUR ARMED FORCES ARE CAPABLE ENOUGH TO HANDLE ANY ATTEMPTS OF INCURSIONS ON THE BORDERS. IT IS A MATTER OF CONCERN THAT CERTAIN VOICES STAND UP IN BHARAT TO PEDDLE BEIJING'S NARRATIVE

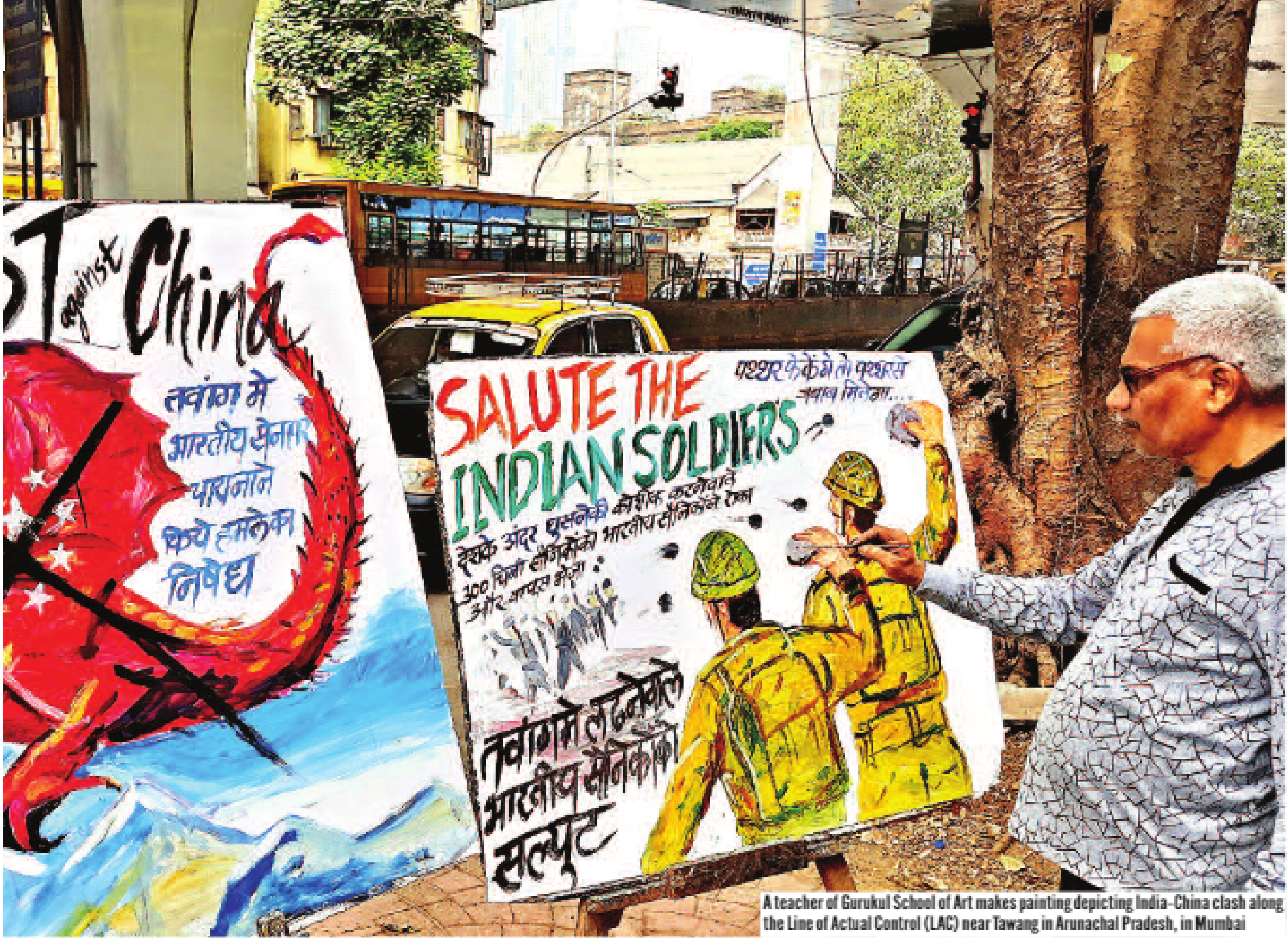
VIJAY KRANTI

Veteran China watcher and Chairman, Centre for Himalayan Asia Studies and Engagement

In his monumental compendium *Art of War*, the great Chinese strategist Sun-Tzu's basic mantra of war is to win it without fighting on the war front. Describing the supremacy of the art of *Attack By Stratagem* i.e. The Art of Deception' in the chapter-3 of this outstanding document, he says, "…To fight and conquer in all your battles is not supreme excellence; supreme excellence consists in breaking the enemy's resistance without fighting.……(Pt-2) ….Therefore the skillful leader subdues the enemy's troops without any fighting; he captures their cities without laying siege to them; he overthrows their kingdom without lengthy operations in the field (Pt-6)."

In India today, almost every politician and security analyst is feverishly engaged in a debate over nitty-gritty details of the Chinese army's attempt to occupy an Indian Army post in the Yangtse sub-sector of Arunachal Pradesh. But no one seems to have the desire, leave aside the wisdom, to take note of the quiet but lethal war of Sun-Tzu, which is going on deep inside the Indian territory and also across the nation's mindscape since Mao established his Communist rule over China in 1949.

Even as a blatant and overwhelmingly visible issue as the Maoist insurgency ('Naxalism' in its previous *avatar*), the pro-China Communists of India have prevailed over the entire range of Central Governments (current Modi Government of BJP included) since 1960s to brand it merely as 'Left Wing Extremism' (LWE) and not 'terrorism'. So effective has been the influence of China-oriented lobbies in India that whenever any high ranking over-ground Maoist leader is caught openly professing revolution against a democratically elected Government or even 'demolishing' the democratic system, many among the best and well-meaning lawyers of the Indian Supreme Court would vie with each other to plead for their 'respectful' release of this 'honorable intellectual'. So deep have the roots of China-sponsored Communist parties and leaders grown in some of the most respected universities of India that groups of leftist students can think of a public celebration



A teacher of Gurukul School of Art makes painting depicting India-China clash along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) near Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, in Mumbai

of the mass murder of 37 security personnel by the Maoist terrorists in Odisha (29 June 2008). Similarly, loud cheering and applause by the JNU students for the pro-China Leftist student organisations and Islamist separatists of Kashmir when they openly danced on the tune of *Bharat Tere Tukde Honge – Insha Allah, Insha Allah* (Allah willing, India will be broken into pieces) in February 2016, was a clear indication of how far the Sun Tzu's doctrine has inflicted India.

Besides presenting the Communist agenda as a 'genuine' desire of the 'common man,' the Communist doctrine has always been focused on gobbling up or overwhelming the popular public movements in their target countries through infiltration and hitchhiking the popular bandwagon. The same tactics were clearly visible during the anti-CAA demonstrations and barricading of roads by a host of Islamic groups in New Delhi's Shaheen Bagh and the year-long 'Kissan Andolan', when petty communist farmer unions high-jacked the agenda and leadership of the movement to hold the capital to ransom for over a year. Looking from the angle of Sun Tzu's doctrine, these two movements presented a clear full dress rehearsal of how similar crowds can be managed to throttle the movement of the Indian Army and other security forces across India in the event of a war with China or Pakistan. India's security experts and top brass of intelligence agencies now realise that the sudden call by the Communist and Islamist student leader Sharjeel Imam to the Indian Muslim community during the Shaheen Bagh anti-CAA movement was neither a joke nor a stray wishful thought. Sharjeel's call to organise a march of five lakh Muslims towards Assam to occupy the thin 'Chicken Neck' corridor in Siliguri, which connects India's eight North-Eastern States to the rest of India, was a premature spilling of a joint plot of the Jehadi and communist groups of India to cut off the entire NE region from rest of India.

Having realised how deeply the Chinese Sun Tzu doctrine has been able to percolate into and invade the Indian polity's mindscape, it is necessary to walk back into history to identify some of the fountainheads of this anti-India poison. Although many people find it convenient to blame Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, for all the problems with China. But it will be a total injustice to hold him responsible exclusively for the mess India has landed into vis-à-vis China. But it was surely the pro-China ecosystem generated by Pt Nehru's one-sided love affair with China which provided a fertile ground for the sprouting of pro-China wisdom among the Indian bureaucracy, academia and public discourse. One of the very few persons

China has encroached upon our land. From Ladakh and Uttarakhand, they've reached Arunachal. We have the right to know government's preparation to tackle China's conspiracy"

—Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha

We are all with the Army and the soldiers but please allow the Opposition to be a part of this discussion after the (Government) statement. The statement can come, we will listen. No one wants to disrupt. The statement will come; we will listen to the Defence Minister; and, then we wish to participate. That is all"

— Derek O'Brien, MP, TMC

The Modi government has kept the people and the Parliament in the dark. Why is it scared of the truth about China coming out? What is Modi's interest in hiding the facts about Chinese aggression?""

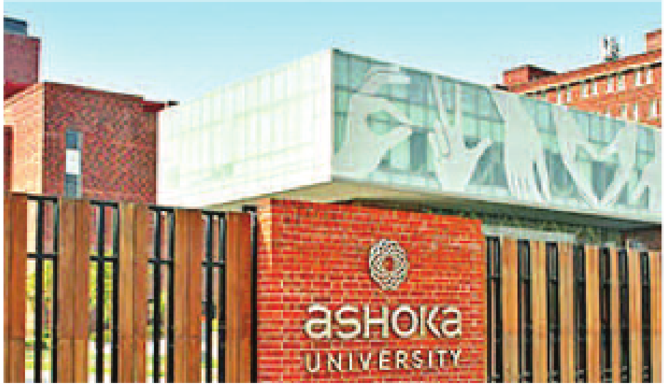
—Asaduddin Owaisi, AIMIM chief

one can think of who sowed the seeds was the much-touted 'China Expert' Ms. Mira Sinha-Bhattacharjea. She joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1955 at a young age of 25 and was posted in Beijing.

Those were the days when Pt Nehru's sponsored fever of *Hindi Cheeni Bhai Bhai* (Indians and the Chinese are brothers) was at its peak. It was just a year after Nehru had signed on the dotted lines of the so-called 'Panchsheel Agreement' with China in 1954 and had formally certified the ownership of forcibly colonised Tibet to China as the 'autonomous region of China'. Not only this, the agreement which had not a single mention of the principles of 'Panchsheel' in any of the operative clauses except in its over-jargoned introduction, Pt Nehru surrendered every single existing privilege of India in the free Tibet (1913-1951). These privileges included India's consulate in Lhasa and two business posts in Tibet; India's ownership of the only telegraph line in Tibet; and India's right to maintain an armed garrison in Tibet.

No wonder this pro-China environment in the Indian Foreign Ministry and also the PM Office in New Delhi were the right chemical medium for the Chinese government to synthesise its India policy and also to groom the young Indian officer. It is quite interesting to note that only four years after serving in the MEA, the energetic Mira resigned and decided to devote herself to teach Chinese studies in India. Over the years, she started the Chinese studies departments in Delhi University and later in JNU. Deeply influenced by her own China experience and encouraged by the pro-active adoration for China of her Prime Minister, many observers of Mira's feats in the later years found her more a champion and admirer of the Chinese interests in India-China relations than those of India.

Because of her coveted position in these universities and her personal equations with the high authorities, Mira had almost a free hand in deciding the direction of research and opinion of Indian diplomats, researchers and media towards China. In later years, she established the first independent China study institute of India in the form of the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) in the capital, which further became the nursery of new generations of 'China experts' in India. Having been a keen observer of India-China relations over the past half a century and the impact of Mira's work on Chinese studies in India, I could never miss the all-pervasive timidness of a sizeable section of India's 'China experts' and 'China Hands' in the MEA on issues and policies related to Tibet. I termed it as the 'Mira Sinha Bhattacharjea Syndrome', which has inflicted India's China policy in a big way for a long time. Having the privilege of participating in some TV



Ashoka University, Sonipat, Haryana

Mira Sinha Bhattacharjea, Founding member of China Study Group and Former Director of Institute of Chinese Studies

> CHINESE EMBASSY IN NEW DELHI HAS WON THE DISTINCTION OF DEVELOPING A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OVER QUITE A FEW UNIVERSITIES, ESPECIALLY SOME NEW PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES. ONE OF THE MOST VISIBLE CASES HAS BEEN THAT OF THE ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

> ONE OF THE VERY FEW PERSONS ONE CAN THINK OF WHO SOWED THE SEEDS WAS THE MUCH-TOUTED 'CHINA EXPERT' MS. MIRA SINHA-BHATTACHARJEA. SHE JOINED THE INDIAN FOREIGN SERVICE IN 1955 AT A YOUNG AGE OF 25 AND WAS POSTED IN BEIJING

discussions and seminars in her company, I could not miss the great awe people around her held and, of course, the awe about China's great 'successes' in the economic and military fields she herself held. The much respected ICS too, has been too visible in its pro-China awe and tilt to miss. There have been murmurs among a section of China watchers who felt that the choice of topics of research and the researchers were biased in favour of China instead of India. This fear about ICS' bias was verified in February 2017 when the MEA decided to withdraw its annual bulk grants of Rs. 1 crore and informed it that future grants would be given on the basis of each project's merit.

Besides having visible influence over some old China study institutions and think tanks of India, the Chinese embassy in New Delhi has won the distinction of developing a significant impact over quite a few universities, especially some new private universities. One of the most visible cases has been that of the Ashoka University in the National Capital Region, which has suddenly emerged as yet another nursery of 'China Experts'. There have been allegations about the university and its flamboyant founder, who has been the focus of special attention due to his involvement in organizing exchange visits of Indian and Chinese scholars. An overwhelming similarity between the activities of the 'China Study Centres' launched by this university and the agenda of the Chinese Communist Party has been noticed by many academics, including a research organization of Indian lawyers who published a report about China's fishy activities of the Chinese embassy in Delhi and some Chinese interest groups in India. There have been reports about the serious influence of Chinese interest groups on Chinese studies programs at some Indian universities.

Many China watchers in India have come to realize that while Pakistan has been using its terrorist groups to destabilize India, China is in overdrive to use diplomacy, academic research, business houses and influential media personalities and media groups of India to promote its own narrative–a reminder of the Sun Tzu's strategy. Besides using its money power to buy full-page advertorials in prominent Indian newspapers like the *Hindustan Times, Indian Express* and *The Hindu* etc. The Chinese Communist Party is using its Xinhua news agency to sign pacts with media organisations like the UNI news agency and the Press Club of India. It is not out of the way to mention that while the Chinese government heavily restricts the appointment and movement of Indian journalists in China, it enjoys all freedoms available to foreign journalists in India. So much so that the *Xinhua* news agency has on its staff a Kashmiri journalist in Srinagar who enjoys accreditation from the Kashmir administration. It stands in sharp contrast to the Chinese Government's total ban on travel of Indian journalists to Tibet, Xinjiang and S Mongolia.

Sun Tzu's influence in India has now percolated deep into the Bollywood industry, which happens to be the most

RAJIV GANDHI FOUNDATION TOOK GRANTS FROM CHINA, ZAKIR NAIK: AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on December 13 said that the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (RGF) had got grants from the Chinese Embassy and Islamic preacher Zakir Naik and hence its registration was cancelled. Amit Shah also said the Congress had raised the border issue in Parliament to avoid questions on the RGF's FCRA [Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act] cancellation.

"The Congress unfortunately disrupted Question Hour even after being told that the Defence Minister (Rajnath Singh) will give a statement on the issue. I saw the Question Hour list and, after seeing question number 5, I understood the anxiety (of Congress)," the home minister said.

Amit Shah further said that, "Congress should answer what did the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation do with the Rs 1.35 crore received from the Chinese Embassy during the year 2005-07? Congress should tell the country why Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust took Rs 50 lakh from Zakir Naik's organisation in FCRA account in July 2011 without permission?"

"India's permanent seat in the UN Security Council was sacrificed because of Nehru's love for China," Shah said. Two months ago, the Ministry of Home Affairs cancelled the FCRA licence of the Foundation. RGF is a social organisation named after the former PM and chaired by his wife and Congress leader Sonia Gandhi.

CHINA'S DIRTY GAME

- China is responsible for carrying out the most cyber-attacks and is motivated primarily by a desire for gaining access to secrets and fulfilling its political objectives with the help of such attacks, reported a Canada-based think-tank, International Forum for Rights and Security
- Leftist news website Newsclick received Rs 38 crore from the Chinese Communist Party in the 2018-21 period, found the Enforcement Directorate while probing the financial dealings of the news website
- Recently, the server of the AIIMS in Delhi was hacked by the Chinese. The officials claimed that out of 100 servers (40 physical and 60 virtual), five physical servers were infiltrated by the hackers

significant influencer of the public mind in India. After handing over the charge of regulating films and media of China to the CCP in 2018, the Chinese Government is seriously focused on making inroads into Bollywood by signing co-production arrangements between major Indian producers and Chinese companies. China demonstrated its success in breaking into the Bollywood club in 2019 when it invited many Indian stars, including Shahrukh Khan and Kabir Khan, to the Beijing International Film Festival (BIFF) 2019. Besides showcasing these Indian stars during the event, the BIFF concluded with a special screening of SRK's film *Zero*. Similarly, China allowed Aamir Khan to screen the dubbed Chinese version of his film *Dangal* in many cities in China. Many business observers of India felt that the 'extraordinary' success of Dangal on the Chinese box-office was a manipulated effort of the Chinese Government to dangle carrot before other Indian producers to encourage them to avoid anti-China themes and present China in a favourable colour in their films. China's money and political influence over Bollywood was starkly demonstrated when the producer of the film *Rock Star* was forced to reedit the crowd scene of its popular song in which a 'Free Tibet' banner was visible. On the Chinese embassy's demand, the produced covered the word 'Tibet' from the banner before releasing it in Indian theatres.

Another sign of China winning strong influence over India's entertainment industry is the heavy investments of CCP-related Chinese companies in some major Indian platforms. For example, Xiaomi invested $ 25 million (Rs. 200 crore) in Hungama, which is a leading aggregator, developer and distributor of films in India. All of these activities amount to direct and indirect influence over factors, which affect the Indian mindscape deeply and have the potential of achieving for China in India what Sun Tzu termed as 'capturing' India's cities from within without laying siege to them. ■

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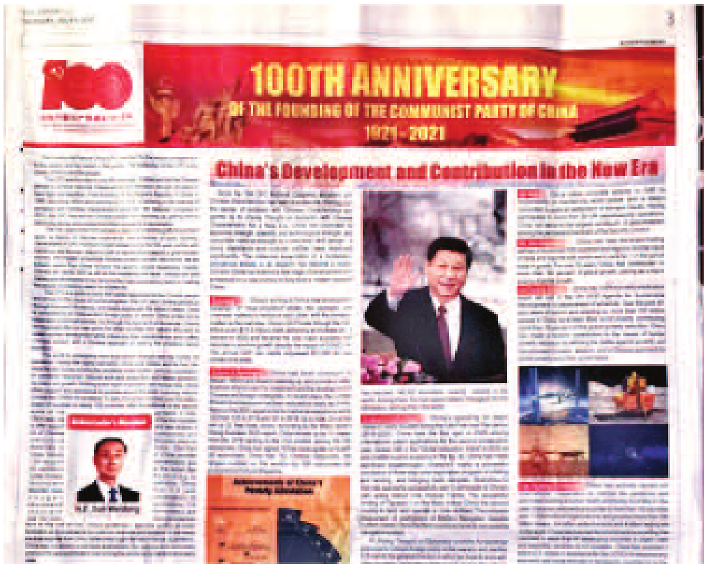
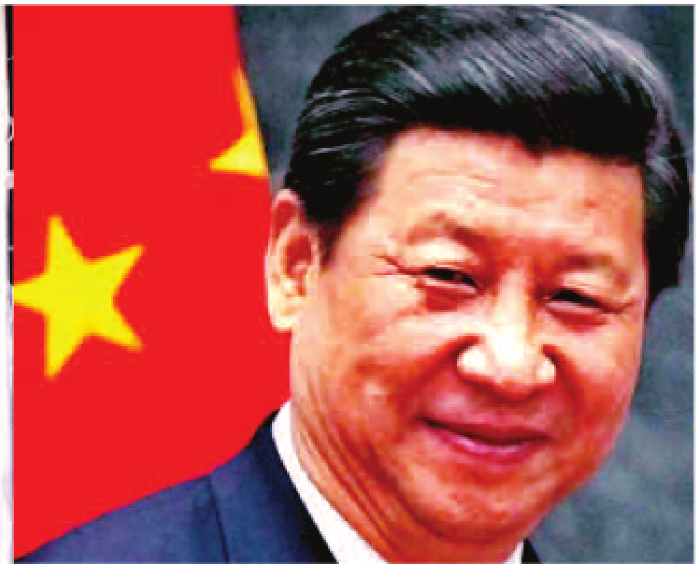


100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE FOUNDING OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA
1921-2021

China's Development and Contribution in the New Era

Prominent english newspapers of India published China's paid content during Galwan crisis



CHINA'S INVISIBLE WARFARE

IF THE SCOPE OF CHINESE WARFARE IS SO WIDESPREAD IN COUNTRIES LIKE THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND, THEN ONE CAN ONLY SHIVER TO IMAGINE THE LEVEL TO WHICH CHINA MIGHT HAVE INFILTRATED OUR POLITICAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS AS WELL AS THE MEDIA

MILIND MAHAJAN, SENIOR LAWYER & COLUMNIST

The incident of violent clashes in the Galwan Valley on the India-China border and the consequent deaths of soldiers on both sides occurred in June 2020. Fourteen rounds of negotiations have since then been conducted to find a solution to the border stalemate. Amidst this tense situation, on December 29, 2021, China officially issued standardised names for 15 places in Zangnan, its name for Arunachal Pradesh. Among those 15 places, 8 are residential areas, four are mountains, two are rivers, and one is a mountain pass. Earlier, in 2017 too, China had issued standardised names of six places in Arunachal Pradesh. China's hostility towards India has been displayed consistently through its actions.

THE MIDDLE KINGDOM SYNDROME

China has turned out to be a headache and a challenge for the whole world. To understand what drives China's aggressive behaviour, it would be pertinent to look at its history. In Mandarin, China is "Zhonggua" which is also a term printed on its currency notes. Zhonggua means "Middle Kingdom." Since ancient times, China has considered itself as the centre of the civilised world and holds other countries as its "tributary states" and inferior to itself. Hence the term "Middle Kingdom." The Middle Kingdom syndrome has continued to dominate the Chinese psyche in the socio-political sphere and has become stronger in the last several years. As a result, China is unlikely to have friendly relations with India and many other countries in the world.

CHINESE WARFARE

As per traditional notions, a war scenario presents a picture of shooting, massive explosions, violence and bloodshed. But the Chinese war strategy is different. China does not recognise that war and peace are different situations. Its strategy is constantly fighting the enemy until the desired goal is achieved. Violent warfare is the last stage in this long struggle. It would not be wrong to call China's war strategy as an "invisible war."

It would be interesting to know what some strategists and security experts say about this invisible war strategy. In 1946, during the Cold War, George Kennan, a well-known American political scientist and diplomat had laid out a detailed plan on how to deal with Soviet Russia. He described the alternative type of warfare as "political warfare, " launched without waging an actual violent war. This political warfare is especially important in the nuclear era, where actual war carries the seeds of all-out destruction. Political warfare involves protracted struggle and encompasses all the spheres, such as political, administrative, social, financial, industrial, and intellectual spheres, including media. China has emerged as the no.1 player in such political warfare.

What China seeks to achieve through such political warfare has been succinctly stated by Aaron Friedberg, a professor at Princeton University, as "China now seeks to present itself as providing an alternative model for development to that offered by the West, one that combines market-driven economic growth with authoritarian politics".

Mao Zedong had stated in 1940s that the Communist Party of China would remain supreme and that the Red Army and the United Front would be the two magic weapons in the hands of the party. The Red Army would wage direct war, and the United Front would unleash political warfare. Thus both would complement each other in furthering the strategic interests of China. Even today, the United Front Works Department (UFWD) is working to increase China's power and influence in the world. Understanding a few examples of how UFWD works to make China the most powerful country in the world by increasing its influence everywhere would be pertinent. However, an important thing to note before this is that during the Cold War, Soviet Russia was relentless in its efforts to spread its influence through socialist ideology. Unlike Soviet Russia, China simply buys people using money. Some examples highlighting this pattern are discussed here.

POLITICAL INFLUENCE

On January 14, 2022, *Reuters* reported that the British intelligence agency MI5 had sent a security alert to all British MPs. The alert warned all MPs that a Chinese-origin lawyer, Christine Lee, has been bribing MPs for many years to increase China's influence. MI5's investigation revealed that she had paid millions of pounds to British MPs to influence their actions. She aimed to pursue and protect Chinese interests. Her activities threatened British national security, which forced the agency to issue the alert.

The *New York Post,* in an article published on May 11, 2021, made a shocking revelation that China has spent $10 million in 2016 and $64 million in 2021 for Influence operations. This highlights how much China is spending to influence lawmakers and opinion makers in the US.

> **IN 2021, THE *NEW YORK POST* MADE A SHOCKING REVELATION THAT CHINA HAS SPENT $10 MILLION IN 2016 AND $64 MILLION IN 2021 FOR INFLUENCE OPERATIONS**

UNIVERSITY AND ACADEMIC SCHOLARS

China considers the United States as its biggest rival. China spends large sums of money on a number of American universities, scholars and students to influence the current and future generations of the United States. In 2018, Jonas Parello-Plesner and Belinda Li wrote for the Hudson Institute that "In 2017 alone, China donated a total of $56 million to several US universities, with Stanford and Harvard receiving $32,224,828 and, $55,065,261, respectively, in the last six years." In December 2021, the former Head of the Department of Chemistry at Harvard University, Prof Charles Lieber was convicted by a US court for receiving millions of dollars from China for his research activities and yet not disclosing the receipts anywhere in his total income.

Even in our neighbourhood, China attempted to spread the reach of Mandarin by initiating a plan to teach Mandarin in all schools in Nepal, with China providing the teachers and even paying their salaries. This effort was aimed with the ulterior motive of sinicising the Nepalese society.

China seems to be unrelenting in its efforts to influence schools, colleges, universities, scholars, teachers and students so that future generations remain in awe of China.

MEDIA

Influence operations are most important in political warfare, and media plays the biggest role in this. China is fully aware of this. China spends huge sums of money to keep media around the world under its influence.

The Chinese Government publishes *China Daily*. Interestingly, it also publishes a local edition in the US, which caters to projecting Chinese interests. On June 26, 2020, *Voice of America* reported that between November 2016 and April 2020, *China Daily* paid $19 million to the American media. Of that, $6 million went to *Wall Street Journal*, $4.6 million to the *Washington Post*, and $260,000 to Twitter. Four-page advertisements were printed and circulated as a special supplement under the title *China Watch*. The purpose of this is to increase the influence of the dictatorial Chinese Government and to increase the influence of China in American society by giving big advertisements in local newspapers. The Chinese funding of American media was yet again highlighted when *Fox News* on May 26, 2021, reported that in the six months from November 2020 to April 2021, *China Daily* paid $700,000 to *Time*, $291,000 to *Foreign Policy*, and $ 371,577 to the *Financial Times* and $ 929,523 to the *Los Angeles Times* for various reasons. China *Daily* itself made this disclosure in its submissions to the Justice Department of the US Government.

In light of this background, it would be pertinent to see what China is doing in the case of Indian newspapers.

A leading English language newspaper in North and West India (*Indian Express*) published a four-page advertisement/supplement on December 29, 2021, under the same title, *China Watch*. On November 3, 2017, another English language newspaper, which is widely circulated in North India and especially in Delhi and again on October 30, 2020, published similar four-page advertisement supplements (*Hindustan Times*). *The Hindu*, a well-known English newspaper of South India, published on 28.9.2018, 02.04.2020, 01.10.2020 and 01.07.2021, a whole page of Chinese advertisements.

China lays claim on the Indian State of Arunachal Pradesh, infiltrates the border at various points, provides military assistance to Pakistan and protects terrorists like Masood Azhar. China's stance towards India has clearly been consistently hostile. And yet, despite the wave of anger against China that erupted across the country after the Galwan clash of June 2020, within just 100 days, in October 2020, some prominent Indian newspapers published full-page advertisements promoting China. Betraying national interests, those newspapers stooped to new lows just for the sake of money. If readers and advertisers call for non-cooperation tomorrow against newspapers that advertise the interests of the enemy without realising the public outcry, they cannot be blamed.

If the scope of Chinese warfare is so widespread in countries like the United States and England, then one can only shiver to imagine the level to which China might have infiltrated our political, and administrative systems as well as the Media.

The fact that China has unleashed an invisible war on India comes forth in many evident ways. Political warfare is being waged against the entire Indian society. To fight the war, it is necessary to initiate the necessary counter-measures. Society as a whole will have to be prepared. The Government and the administration need to launch a massive public awareness campaign against this danger. One can only overcome the threat if one understands the exact nature of the danger. ■

THERE IS NO BORDER DISPUTE AT ALL

UNDEFINED BORDERS DUE TO INHOSPITABLE TERRAINS IS A MYTH CREATED BY THE CHINESE

RAMAKANT TIWARI

Senior Columnist

In July 2013, I was invited to attend a seminar on BHARAT-CHINA border dispute at Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) in New Delhi, addressed by Special Director (Intelligence Bureau) who had been our border-negotiator with China for more than 20 years. The audience mainly comprised of retired diplomats/ambassadors, DGPs, senior Army / Air Force Commanders and IB officials. Ex-Ambassador to China G. Parthasarathy, Ex-Army Chief Gen. NC Vij and Bangladesh war hero/ex-Panjab Governor/ex-Lt. Governor of Goa, Maj. Gen. JFR Jacob too, were present in the audience.

First-hand details and the analysis he provided with maps and documents were amazing, while conclusions were sensational. I am sharing some of the findings in his language, which I feel, everybody in the country must know.

Regular Chinese intrusions started right in 1954 itself!! In 1959, Nehru wrote a sob-letter to Chinese Prime Minister Chou En Lai in the language of a jilted lover, begging him not to treat us so shabbily!! The Special Director (IB) read out Nehru's sob-letter before us, and the entire audience was stunned to listen to its contents. All intrusions have been kept classified, and the nation has been kept in the dark for reasons best known to Nehru alone. Several times, the Army took the initiative to be decisively tough with them, but Nehru immediately prevented them from being tough with the Chinese.

Undefined borders due to inhospitable terrains is a myth created by the Chinese. Borders and every inch of it is precisely mapped and defined, and ownership is

Indian and Chinese soldiers at LAC

established with authentic documents.

The truth is that China does not want to solve the border dispute. It is in their benefit to linger on with the dispute/controversy as long as possible.

In reality, there is no border dispute at all. How? In 1892, the then Chinese King submitted a detailed map to the then British Viceroy in New Delhi showing Kailasa Mansarovar, Ladakh, Aksai Chin, and Arunachal Pradesh as Bharatiya territories!! They authenticated it, and the British accepted it and held it as final. It is also confirmed by the then revenue records, still in possession of our Government. And the situation continued so till 1947.

After the Communist takeover of China, they declined to accept those authentic documents anymore. They pressurised the then Dalai Lama to demand Tawang, Sikkim, Bhutan and nearby areas to be 'returned' to them!! When he declined, it was probably then Chinese decided to capture Tibet.

In 1954, Nehru signed Panchsheel Agreement with China wherein not a single clause is in favour of Nehru's India!!! Home Minister Sardar Patel had already started warning Nehru right since 1947 itself, and bureaucrats of the day pressed Nehru not to go ahead with the agreement, but the traitor in Nehru did not yield. At that time, China was a very weak country, desperate to destroy our relations with Tibet and very eager for Bharat to accept Tibet as a Chinese territory.

Intrusions, gun-fire, kidnapping of Bharatiya soldiers, snatching their arms, keeping them captive for days together before releasing, writing rude/stinging letters to Jawaharlal Nehru by the Chinese Prime Minister, became a routine affair immediately after Panchsheel Agreement was signed, since 1954 itself.

Then came the war of 1962 in a self-created pathetic condition of the Army; their inability to fight back for want of ammunition, winter clothing, snow-boots etc., an intentionally invited debacle and humiliation for the nation by design and intent, were entirely a Nehru creation. Our soldiers were brutally murdered, and Nehru just kept mum. The then IAF Chief repeatedly pressed Nehru for permission to bombard Chinese intruders, but Nehru was resolute in denying them the consent. That permission would have entirely changed the contours of the war.

Line of Actual Control (LAC) is a myth created by the Chinese according to their convenience. They continue shifting LAC towards Bharat, on the table, on the ground, everywhere!!!

Bharatiya Army have been ordered by the Royal Dynasty of Nehru-Gandhi-Vadra of Congress to follow the Line of Patrolling!!! It is LOP that our Army is ordered to follow and not LAC! Certainly, LOP is far behind LAC! Royal Dynasty of Nehru-Gandhi-Vadra never utters the word 'LOP' in public, as it wants to hoodwink the nation.

After 2008, there has been a spurt in intrusions ranging from 400 to 500 on land/air/water...that too aggressive in nature, not ordinary ones.

All their intrusions are mainly confined to the area that may be called the corridor between Bharat and Tibet as well as Bharat and Xinjiang, the largest province of China. They are worried about the Bharatiya Army entering Tibet and Xinjiang as these two regions are under considerable turmoil of rebellion. Self-immolations in Tibet and armed revolt with two-way bloodshed in Xinjiang province are matter of great concern for the Chinese. So they are actually afraid of Bharat!

Whenever the Chinese raise the banner saying Indians go back, Jawans of ITBP are under explicit instructions to raise the banner saying,Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai! I pointedly asked the IB official why our Government have been so timid and submissive in their responses. He said there has been no valid, convincing reason!!! May be some foreign pressure, he guessed. After all, he was speaking in public!! Military threat coupled with arm-twisting diplomacy shall certainly force them out of our occupied territory. But then, for that, we need a Sardar Patel/Narendra Modi as Prime Minister and not Nehru/Manmohan Singh.

It was a stunning eye-opener for the entire audience. ■

RSS Sarsanghchalak Dr Mohan Bhagwat inaugurated an exhibition 'Gallery of Braves' on the heroes of the 1962 India-China war and heroes of Arunachal Pradesh

1962 WAR HEROES COMMEMORATED

"GALLERY OF BRAVES" INCLUDING HEROES OF 1962 INDIA-CHINA WAR IN ARUNACHAL AND HEROES OF ARUNACHAL WAS INAUGURATED BY RSS SARSANGHCHALAK DR MOHAN BHAGWAT

W RORRKYCHAND SINGH

Sarsanghchalak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Dr Mohan Bhagwat, was cynosure of all eyes when he inaugurated an exhibition 'Gallery of Braves' on the heroes of the 1962 India-China war and heroes of Arunachal Pradesh on December 12, 2022 at Donyi Polo Vidya Niketan, Talon Rukbo Nagar, Pasighat. The exhibition is a collection of gallant stories about the bravery of Indian soldiers who fought tenaciously during the 1962 India-China war in Arunachal Pradesh. All the write-ups have been compiled and presented by Group Captain Mohonto Panging Pao VM (Rtd).

Many of the heroes were martyred during the war. One Param Vir Chakra, many Maha Vir Chakras and Vir Chakra awardees have been featured in the exhibition. Besides, other unsung heroes who were not awarded but honoured by locals and enemy forces are also featured in the show. The exhibition also featured Heroes of Arunachal, who fought against anti-national elements in faraway Jammu and Kashmir. Many were martyred and awarded gallantry awards like Ashok Chakra, Kirti Chakra, Sena Medal etc. Many dignitaries, officials and locals witnessed the exhibition. The exhibition is planned to be conducted and displayed at other places and events to create more awareness amongst the general population. The Sarsanghchalak Dr Bhagwat ji arrived at Pasighat on a four-day visit. RSS Akhil Bhartiya Karyakarini Sadasya

> **THE PRIMARY TRIGGERS OF THE WAR WERE THE FORWARD POLICY ADOPTED BY THE THEN-INDIAN GOVERNMENT LED BY PRIME MINISTER JAWAHARLAL NEHRU AND DEFENCE MINISTER KRISHNA MENON**

RANI MAA GAIDINLIU STATUE UNVEILED

A 3.5 ft statue of Rani Gaidinliu was installed in a public park in Rail Vihar colony of Gorakhpur with the blessing of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. It was unveiled by Sitaram Jaiswal, Mayor of Gorakhpur city, on December 6, 2022 in function attended by luminaries from Vanvasi Kalyan Ashram, RSS, BJP and other socio-cultural organisations of Gorakhpur.

UTTAR PRADESH

THE STORY OF THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE OF RANI GAIDINLIU IS A GOLDEN CHAPTER OF BHARATIYA HISTORY. THE LIFE OF RANI GAIDINLIU IS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION FOR ALL OF US LIKE RANI LAKSHMI BAI OF JHANSI

In his address Mayor Sitaram Jaiswal said," Rani Gaidinliu is the true daughter of Bharat Mata who fought against the British for the freedom of our country. On other front, she clashed against conversion crusade of Christian missionaries who were in league with Christian terrorists.

The Mayor of Gorakhpur pointed out that the story of freedom struggle of Rani Gaidinliu is a golden chapter of Bharatiya history. "The life of Rani Gaidinliu is a source of inspiration for all of us like Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi".

Prof Prithviraj Singh, RSS Chief of Goraksh Prant of UP, said, "People in other parts of the country generally believe that all Nagas are Christians and all Christian Nagas are anti-national. But this is not the fact. Neither all Nagas are Christian nor all Christian Nagas are anti - Indian. There are a handful of misguided youths who are spearheading the secessionist armed struggle at gunpoint and those who oppose them are gunned down.

Earlier, Jagdamba Mall highlighted the salient features of the freedom struggle led by Rani Gaidinliu against British invasion and Christian conversion. The function was marked by Zeliangrong Heraka devotional song followed by Heraka dance presented by Naga students of Shri Ram Vanvasi Chhatrawas, Gorakhpur UP. The function started with worship of the statue of Rani Gaidinliu with Vedic mantras, pronounced by Brahman priest, followed by garlanding of statue byMayor Siyaram Jaisawal. The function was organised under the joint venture of Sewa Samarpan Sanathan, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Municipal Corporation, Gorakhpur UP.

–Organiser Bureau

Mananiya V Bhagaiah ji and Arunachal Pradesh Prant Karyavah Shri Nido Salter ji were also present on the occasion.

INDIA-CHINA WAR OF 1962

The one-month-long Sino-India War of 1962 was one of the darkest chapters of India. The primary triggers of the war were the Forward Policy adopted by the then-Indian Government led by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and Defence Minister Krishna Menon. Many Arunachali recalled the 1962 India-China war with fear and anger. The main war commenced with a massive attack by Chinese forces on October 20th 1962, along with six significant axes, Tawang-Bomdilla-Rupa, Taksin-Limeking, Mechuka-Tato, Manigong-Tato, Gelling-Tuting and Kibithoo-Walong. Chinese troops advanced rapidly and reached Sela by October 23rd. After that, there was a long pause in fighting for almost three weeks, wherein proposals for peaceful negotiations were pursued without conclusion. Indian soldiers fought many fierce battles in all sectors. Chinese declared a unilateral cease-fire on November 20th 1962, and later withdrew, marking the end of the India-China war. ■

WAR ON DRUGS

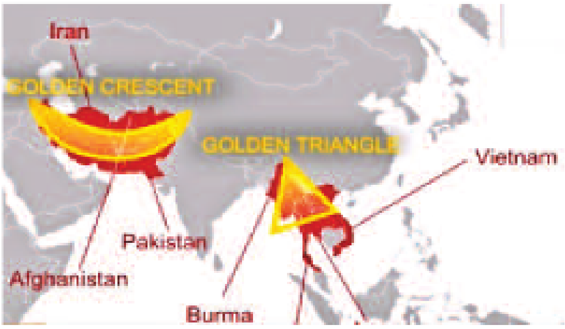
TO FIGHT A WAR THAT DIRECTLY IMPACTS EVERY SPHERE OF OUR SOCIETY, BE IT CULTURAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC OR OTHERWISE, IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL OF US TO WORK TOGETHER IN TANDEM AS THERE ARE MANY WHO WANT US TO FAIL THIS WAR AND VERY FEW WHO ARE WILLING TO FIGHT THIS WAR

ANALYSIS

SHRUTIKAR ABHIJIT

Executive Director, Institute of Conflict Research and Resolution, a Think Tank based out of Guwahati

The sale, purchase and consumption of illegal Narcotics/Drugs is a global phenomenon that poses a paramount challenge to mankind. Drug Trafficking and abuse not only destroy the immediate consumer but destroys entire families, generations and at times even stifle the prospects of an entire Nation. According to the World Drug Report 2022, which is published annually by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNDOC) estimated that globally (2020), there were around 209 million users of Cannabis, 61 million users of Opioids, 34 Million users of Amphetamines, 21 million users of Cocaine and 20 million users of Ecstacy. Whereas trade-wise, the Illegal Drug trade constitutes to be third the largest business with an estimated turnover of 500 billion USD, next to petroleum and Arms Trade. However, in the case of organised crime, drug trafficking occupies the top spot followed by the heinous crime of Human Trafficking. It is also important here to note that most of these cross-border organised crimes enjoy a symbiotic relationship with each other and have a cumulative estimate of 2.1 trillion USD per year i;e 3.5 per cent of world GDP (2009).



Source: Current Affairs Review

Now coming to India, the entire façade of Drug Trafficking poses a unique challenge as India remains sandwiched between two biggest narcotics-producing regions, i;e the golden crescent and the golden triangle. The golden triangle region is described as the confluence of the Mekong river and the Ruak river which produces almost 80 per cent of the world's total heroin production. Subsequently, Myanmar also shares an international border with the Indian states of

Assam Police destroying 15 bighas of cannabis cultivation at Latibari char, Bamunialga char & Patakata char under Chunari PS, Goalpara

Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland and Manipur, which in turn shares interstate boundaries with the state of Assam, which is a gateway to the rest of India. This unique geographical position of Assam makes it a major transit hub for the majority of narcotics produced in the golden triangle region and destined for distribution in the rest of India or way forward to other countries. To give a perspective on the scale of drugs being trafficked through the state of Assam, consider this— a whooping Rs. 1038.11 crores worth of drug was busted by Assam Police just between May 2021 to November 2022, thus making the streets of Assam and India comparatively cleaner and safer.

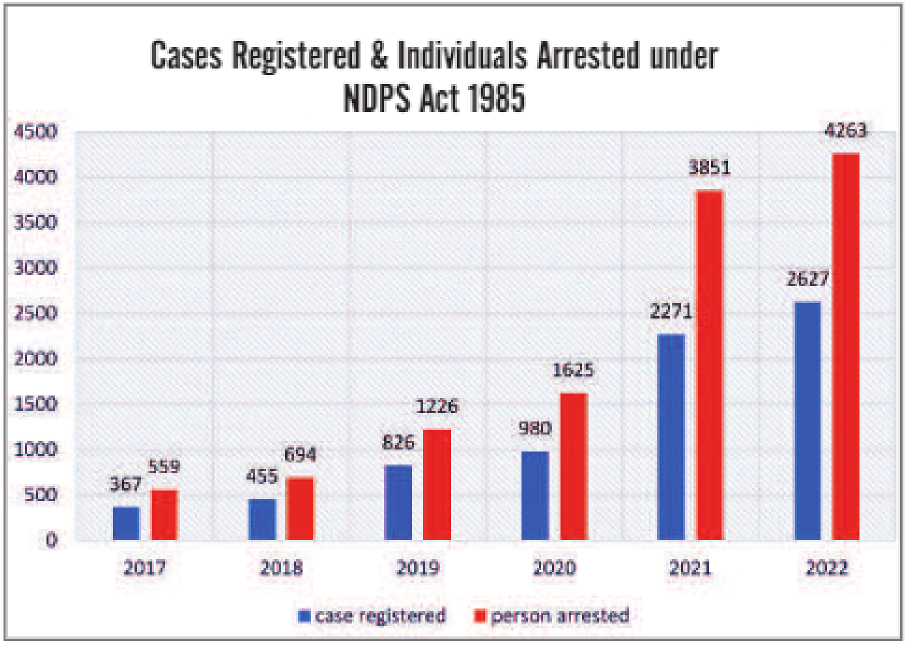


Fig.5

The above visualisation of the total number of cases registered and persons arrested by Assam police under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act of 1985 gives a clear perception of the relentless pursuit of Assam police. Especially from 2021, an exceptional trend is observed where a clear spike is police action is witnessed as compared to previous years. This clear jump in the Assam Police action must undoubtedly be credited to the Himanta Biswa Sarma government, which has

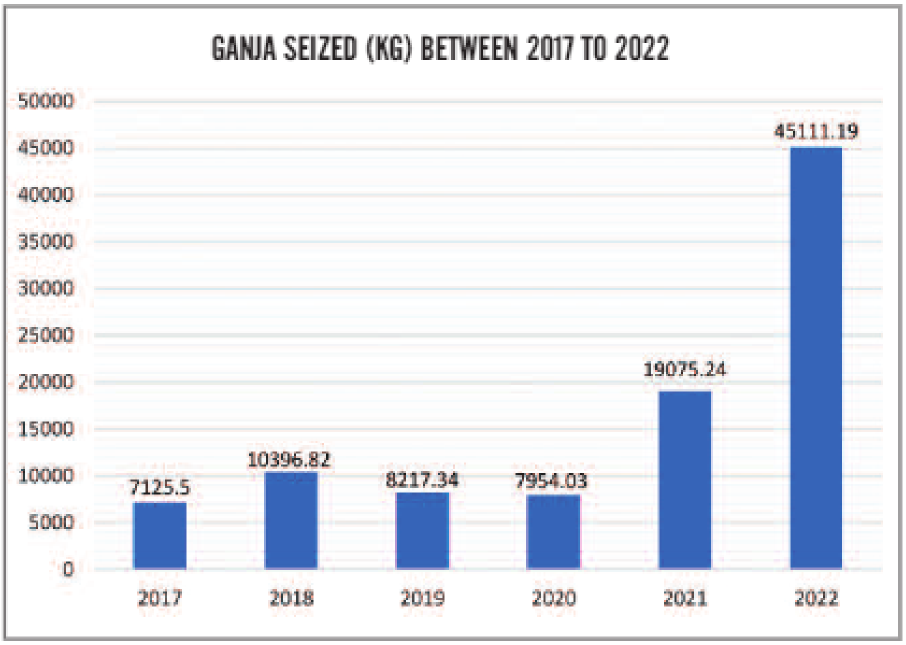


Fig.2

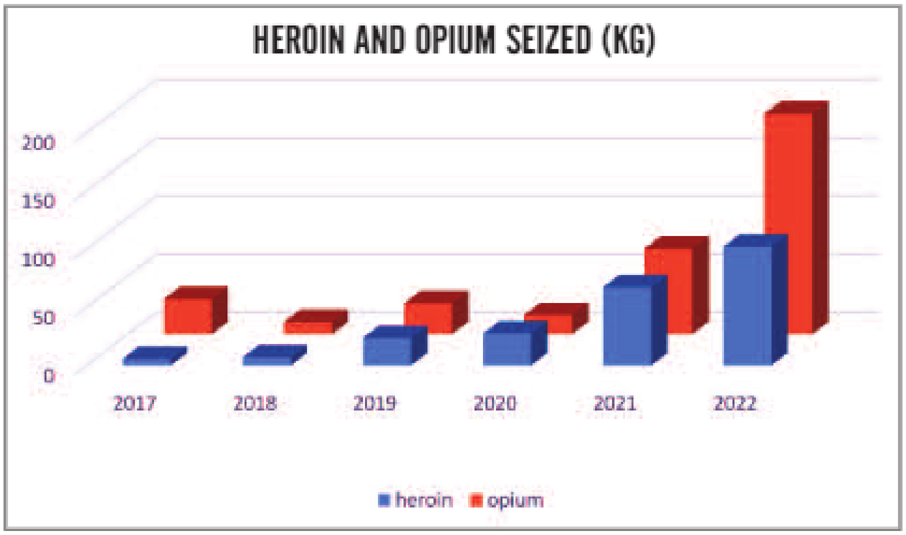


Fig.3

> TO GIVE A PERSPECTIVE ON THE SCALE OF DRUGS BEING TRAFFICKED THROUGH THE STATE OF ASSAM, CONSIDER THE WHOOPING AMOUNT OF DRUGS WORTH RS 1038.11 CRORES BUSTED BY ASSAM POLICE BETWEEN MAY 2021 TO NOVEMBER 2022, THUS MAKING THE STREETS OF ASSAM AND INDIA COMPARATIVELY CLEANER AND SAFER

made its policy clear in terms of dealing with the menace of drug trafficking.

Moreover, the data for total seizures by Assam Police for narcotics substances like Ganja, Heroin, opium and codeine-based cough syrups from 2017 to 2022 also project a similar trend.

After assuming office in May 2021, Himanta Bishwa Sarma had reportedly undertaken a series of crucial meetings with the senior officers of the Assam Police force, to outline a course of action to fight the menace. As a result, within the first hundred days of Himanta Biswa Sarma government, drugs worth Rs 200 crores in the international market were busted by Assam police. GP Singh, the Special DGP in charge of Law & Order, Assam Police and the famous directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, has termed the Assam government's war on drugs as Assam's Blitzkrieg against the Drug menace—an approach which decisively underlines the tall morale and zeal of Assam police while combating the menace. According to Special DGP, GP Singh, the Team Assam is working in three verticals to deal with the menace of Drugs, one being demand reduction, the second being supply reduction and the third being harm reduction. While Supply reduction—where the primary focus is to choke the supply of drugs flowing into Assam through a multi-agency approach—is something that enforcement agencies and police forces are directly involved in, demand reduction on the other hand is something where the society at large is involved. It involves end consumers, their family members and other departments /organisations like the social welfare department, the sports department etc. Lastly, according to GP Singh, harm reduction is an effort to contain the harm caused by drugs. He describes it as a stage where various departments and organisations involved in the drug de-addiction, like the health department, come together in efforts to rehabilitate drug consumers and slowly steer them away from drug consumption.

Another important aspect of Assam Police's war on drugs is that it is not only making the streets of Assam safer, but making streets of the entire Indian Nation safer. The state of Assam is a major transit route for Narcotics coming from the golden triangle. Roughly 30 per cent of these Narcotics are consumed in the northeastern states, while a major chunk of it(almost 70 per cent) is distributed and consumed in mainland India. Therefore, the Himanta Biswa Sarma government is not only shouldering the responsibility of Making Assam free from drugs, but is making entire India safer.

The challenge in hand for the Assam Government, Assam Police, Assamese society and the entire Nation society at large is immense and gargantuan. While the police force braves the bullets, the the society at large must remain vigilant. It has to fight the physical menace of Drug Trafficking and remain vigilant to the propaganda war that will be fielded from time to time, assuming various means and tools to demotivate and deprive us of our right to live in a drugs free society. To fight a war that directly impacts every sphere of our society, be it cultural, social, economic or otherwise, it is our collective responsibility as a nation to work together. There are many who want us to fail this war, and very few who are willing to support our efforts. Sadly, we have seen what had become the state of affairs in the state of Punjab; it only makes one even more grateful to the men in uniform in Assam, and CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, the hard taskmaster.■

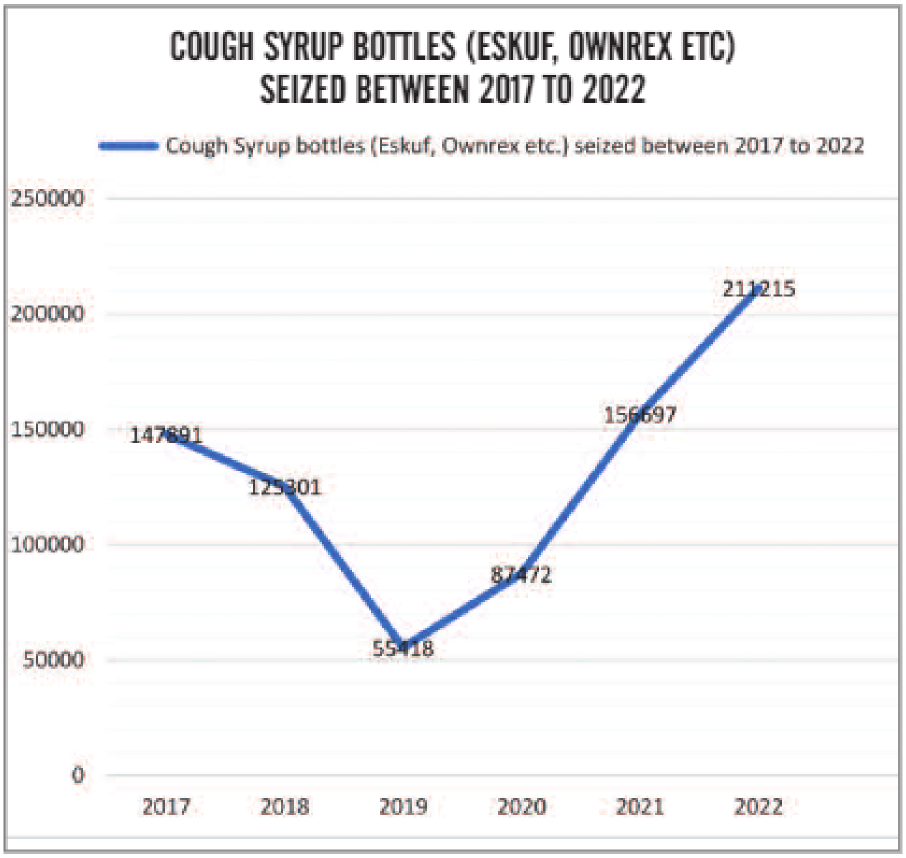

COUGH SYRUP BOTTLES (ESKUF, OWNREX ETC) SEIZED BETWEEN 2017 TO 2022

Fig.4

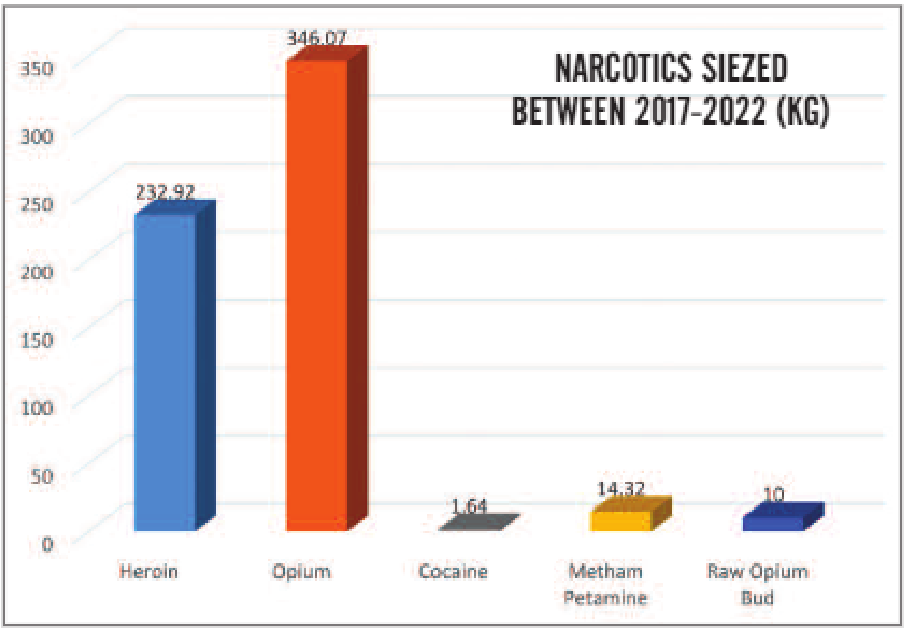

NARCOTICS SIEZED BETWEEN 2017-2022 (KG)

Fig.5

ਪੁਲਿਸ ਸਟੇਸ਼ਨ ਸਰਹਾਲੀ
POLICE STATION SARHALI
ਸਾਂਝ ਕੇ

NEED AN OPERATION BEYOND POLITICS

WITH SEPARATISM ON THE RISE IN PUNJAB, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO MONITOR THE AAP-RULED STATE AND INTERVENE IF THE SITUATION FURTHER DETERIORATES

OPINION

JAIBANS SINGH

Senior Columnist , Strategic Expert

On the night of December 9-10, 2022, a Rocket Propelled Grenade was fired by two motorcycle-bound miscreants at the Sarhali Police Station in Taran Taran district of Punjab. The RPG hit the gate of the Police Station but did not explode. Instead, it got diverted and landed unexploded in the adjoining Saanjh Kendra. This is the second attack on a Police Station in Punjab since the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) formed the Government in Punjab. The first one was at the Punjab Police Intelligence Wing Headquarters in Mohali.

In the immediate aftermath of the attack, the Government of Punjab took the rather redundant action of transferring the officials of the Police station under attack and posting a new set. Such actions result in the loss of precious time and intelligence and are, as such, quite counter-productive.

The Police has hinted at a foreign hand in the attack and stated that the RPG was possibly smuggled into Punjab through a Drone. Whatever may be the mode of smuggling, the moot point is that there was a set of people available in Punjab to

Four held for aiding gangsters in Tarn Taran RPG attack, incriminating documents recovered

take delivery of weapon consignments and then use it for the attack. This implies that Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) is activating its sleeper cells in Indian Punjab.

The Police has also stated that 12 persons have been detained for questioning in the case, of which, at least four were used to provide logistic support. It further indicates that strikers and Over Ground Workers (OGWs) are available in Punjab to conduct terrorist activities. The emerging situation is causing widespread disquiet among the people who are worried about a repeat of the terrible period of the 1980s when foreign-sponsored terrorism wracked havoc in the State and caused tremendous misery to the people.

Over and above the attacks on Government establishments, Punjab is witnessing a proliferation of well-structured gangs that undertake all sorts of illegal and criminal activities like murder, extortion and anti-national activity while also strengthening the narcotics, mining and land mafia. The end result is a marked increase in drug consumption as well as illegal sand mining, even as high-profile daylight murders, among many other killings, have become a routine activity.

The AAP Government had promised to eradicate the drug menace and illegal mining within 24 hours of coming to power. One can excuse the 24-hour rhetoric as an election spin, but being unable to keep the promise after being in power for more than nine months and having nothing to show as progress is something that cannot be overlooked. The people of Punjab look at this failure as a breach of trust by the incumbent Government.

Embarrassingly, AAP failed to retain the Sangrur Parliamentary constituency seat from where Punjab Chief Minister, Bhagwant Mann, had won two terms to the Parliament as the party candidate. This led to the forfeiture of the seat to Simranjit Singh Mann, who openly advocated a separatist policy and had been kept in the irrelevant fringes of Punjab politics by the people for more than two decades. He won due to the frustration of the people against the AAP, whose ineptitude as a ruling dispensation had become very apparent within a few months of it forming the Government. His winning the Sangrur constituency opened the spectre of separatism in the State yet again.

Suddenly, Amritpal Singh, an unknown person who had spent the last decade in Dubai, appeared on the scene as yet another mouthpiece of the separatist Khalistan ideology in support of Simranjit Mann. He gained legitimacy by taking over as head of the "Waris Punjab De" organisation formed by the late actor-cum-activist Deep Sidhu, who died in a car accident on February 15, 2022. Amritpal Singh has positioned himself as a clone of Khalistan advocate Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. The striking physical resemblance between the two is now being exploited to the hilt. To a person who has expertise in the modus operandi of the ISI, it becomes very obvious that Amritpal Singh has been indoctrinated and trained by the organisations and is now being provided financial and media support by the same establishment to carry out activities as directed by it.

Meanwhile, the neighbouring country is leveraging the tenuous law and order situation, weak economy, frustration of the people due to misgovernance and fanning of separatist sentiment opportunity to the hilt, not only in India but also among the Sikh Diaspora. Its stooges like Gurpatwant Singh Pannu and his Sikh for Justice (SFJ) organisation, along with many others, are being fed with finances and information to keep the pot boiling in Punjab. In the aftermath of the attack in Taran Taran, SFJ had given a statement on social media that it will provide legal aid to Sikhs who have been detained by the Punjab Government.

The sudden increase in Drone attacks, activation of sleeper cells, rise in gangster culture, daylight murders, increasing separatist rhetoric with tremendous social media presence of Simranjit Mann and Amritpal Singh, and the activation of anti-India, anti-Punjab assets in foreign countries all bear the signature of ISI. The organisation wishes to open a new front in Punjab now that its activities in Jammu & Kashmir have been drastically curtailed.

Peace and stability in all border States is of primary importance in view of the belligerent neighbourhood that India has to contend with. Punjab is of particular significance since its very loyal Sikh and Punjabi community is looked upon by Pakistan as the biggest stumbling block in pursuance of its policy of attempting to dismember India. The Pakistani strategists feel that if Punjab is weakened, the doors for the Indian hinterland will automatically open up for them. A strong Government in the State is the best bet for breaking down the game plan of the enemy. It is, therefore, imperative for AAP to realise the responsibility that it holds and look at good governance in Punjab as its primary national duty that goes much beyond its political and electoral aspirations. The party has to overcome its desire to use Punjab as a financial tool to catapult to the national political scene. Blatant exploitation of Punjab needs to cease immediately, and a concrete effort needs to be made to address and eradicate the many challenges that the sensitive region is facing. Each and every issue in Punjab cannot be politicised or swept under the carpet by the Government.

The Union Government needs to reach out and support every initiative the State Government takes. It is also important for the Union Government to keep a keen watch over the situation in Punjab and intervene if the situation is not stabilised soon. There is simply no space for weakness in the management of Punjab. ■

Deceased AAP Councillor Akbar Bholi

Deteriorating Law and Order Situation under AAP

- Rocket-propelled grenade attack on police station in Tarn Taran
- Supporters of Amritpal Singh create a ruckus at Gurudwara, break the chairs and burn them
- Panjab University student arrested on suspicion of terror links, was receiving funds from ISI

- Dera Sacha Sauda follower Pradeep Singh, accused in 2015 Bargari sacrilege case shot dead in Faridkot
- Shiv Sena Taksali's Sudhir Suri shot dead outside a temple
- Pro-Khalistan slogans found on walls of forest department office in Bhatinda
- Three persons possessing 1.5 kg IED-RDX and two pistols arrested by the Punjab Police
- AAP Municipal Councillor Akbar Bholi killed in Malerkotla
- Minor boy Savan Kumar, slaughtered in police presence in Ludhiana Civil Hospital
- Grenade attack on Punjab Police Intelligence Headquarters in Mohali

Govt. of Haryana

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Prosperous State, Prosperous Nation Brought Every Section under Consideration

Free Treatment

Ayushman Bharat
Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana

Free Vaccine

Vaccine to All

Free Ration

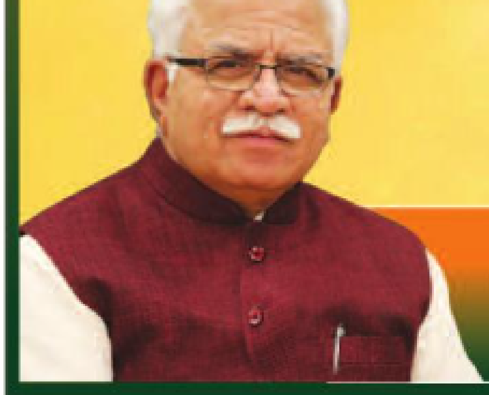
Pradhan Mantri
Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

Education to All

New National Education Policy

Affordable Housing

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana



Thank You Modi Ji

Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana | www.prharyana.gov.in | follow us on @diprharyana

SMALL SCREEN, BIG PICTURE

THE HUGE MANDATE TO BJP IN GUJARAT BRINGS A LOT OF EXPECTATIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT, AS THE GUJARAT VOTERS HAVE CHOSEN DEVELOPMENT, SECURITY AND SOCIAL HARMONY AGAINST FREEBIES

GOPAL GOSWAMI

Research Scholar, SVNIT Surat

The ruling BJP has won the recently concluded and much talked about Gujarat assembly elections with a whopping vote share of 52.52 per cent, winning 156 seats out of 182 seats in a seventh successive streak. Sailing on an anti-incumbency ride, BJP has turned the mandate into pro-incumbency through well-orchestrated booth management and minute social engineering. Bhupendra Patel, a second-time MLA and Chief Minister for the last leg of the government, has been reappointed as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Patel (60) first took the oath in September 2021 as the Gujarat CM, replacing Vijay Rupani. He won the Ghatlodia seat of Ahmadabad, part of the Gandhinagar Lok Sabha constituency, with the highest margin of 1.92 lakh votes in these elections.

Patel has kept his cabinet relatively small; but the caste factor is clearly visible as his 17-member cabinet has seven OBC ministers; four Patel; two from the Scheduled Tribe and one each from the Scheduled Caste, Brahmin, Jain and Rajput communities, seems fit as pro-rata basis. The cabinet looks optimistic, with a mixture of young and experienced ministers.

Rushikesh Patel: Rushikesh Patel, a native of the Mehsana, and a four-term MLA, has previously held the position of minister of Health and Family Welfare, Medical Education. He has been given health, higher and technical education, law and parliamentary and legislative affairs portfolios.

Raghavji Patel : Raghavji comes from the Sourashtra Leuva Patel community and has served as an MLA seventh times from Jamnagar. Raghavji Patel has been allocated the Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Housing and Rural Development departments.

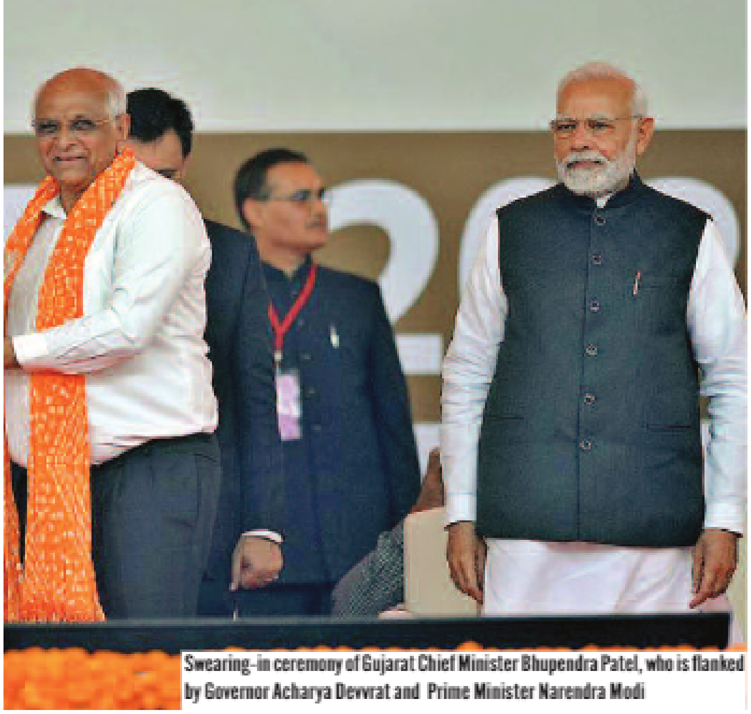
Balvantsinh Chandansinh Rajput : A BJP candidate from Sidhpur, Rajput, defected from the Congress to BJP in 2017. Balwantsinh Rajput has been given the Industries, Labour and Employment, MSME (Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), Cottage Industry and Civil Aviation

Kunwarjibhai Mohanbhai Bavaliya : Kunwarji comes from the fisherman community and won his seventh poll, handing BJP its first-ever victory from Jasdan. Kunvarji Bavaliya has been given Water Resources, Water Supply, Food and Civil Supply departments.

Dr Kanu Desai : Kanu Desai comes from the powerful Anavil Brahmin community. After retiring from corporate services, he joined politics, and was finance minister in the first Bhupendra Patel Government. Kanubhai Desai has been allocated the Finance, Energy and Petrochemicals departments.

Mulu Bera : Mulubhai Hardasbhai Bera, an Ahir leader, is a former minister from Khambhalia in Devbhumi Dwarka district, defeating AAP's Gujarat chief ministerial candidate Ishudan Gadhvi and sitting congress MLA with a significant margin and getting nearly 41per cent of the votes. He has been given Tourism, Cultural Activities, Forest and Environment departments.

Dr Kuber Dindor : Dr Dindor was Minister of



Swearing-in ceremony of Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, who is flanked by Governor Acharya Devvrat and Prime Minister Narendra Modi

> THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO NOTICE ABOUT THIS CABINET IS IT LOOKS FREE FROM NEGATIVE HISTORY OF CORRUPTION OR CRIMINAL CHARGES. BJP HAS TRIED TO PORTRAY A CLEAN PICTURE IN THE WAKE OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE AAM ADAMI PARTY

State for Higher and Technical Education, Science, and Parliamentary Affairs in the first term of the Bhupendra Patel Government from September 2021. He is MLA from the Santrampur Assembly Constituency of Mahisagar district. He will handle Tribal Development as well as Primary and Secondary Education portfolios as a cabinet minister.

Bhanuben Babariya : Bhanu Babariya, who comes from the schedule caste community, won the Rajkot Rural (SC) seat for the third time. Her father-in-law Madhubhai Babariya too, was MLA from this seat in 1998. The only woman cabinet member, Bhauben Babariya has been allocated Social Justice and Empowerment, Women and child development portfolios.

MINISTER OF STATE /INDEPENDENT CHARGE

Harsh Sanghavi : Once the youngest MLA of Gujarat at the age of 27, Harsh Sanghavi contested from the Majura seat for a third consecutive time. He is believed to be close to PM Modi, Amit Shah and state BJP president CR Paatil. He has been allocated the portfolios of Home, Police Housing, Industry and Cultural Activities as a Minister of State (MoS), along with Sports and Youth Service, NRG (Non-Resident Gujaratis) department, Prisons, Border Security and Transport portfolios as MoS with independent charge.

Jagdish Vishwakarma : Vishwakarma, who has been the president of the BJP's Ahmedabad unit, was one of the key members of the previous cabinet. He defeated the Congress's Ranjitsinh Barad from the Nikol constituency with a margin of over 55,000. He has been given independent charge of Cooperation, Salt Industry and Protocol departments, along with MSME, Cottage Industry, Khadi and Village Industry and Civil Aviation in the capacity of a junior minister.

Parshottam Solanki : An MLA from Bhavnagar Rural and a prominent Koli leader, he has defeated his Congress leader Revantsinh Gohil by 73,484 votes. Solanki was a fisheries minister in the then-Modi government and an influential Koli leader from Sourashtra. He has been allocated Fisheries and Animal Husbandry as a Minister of State again.

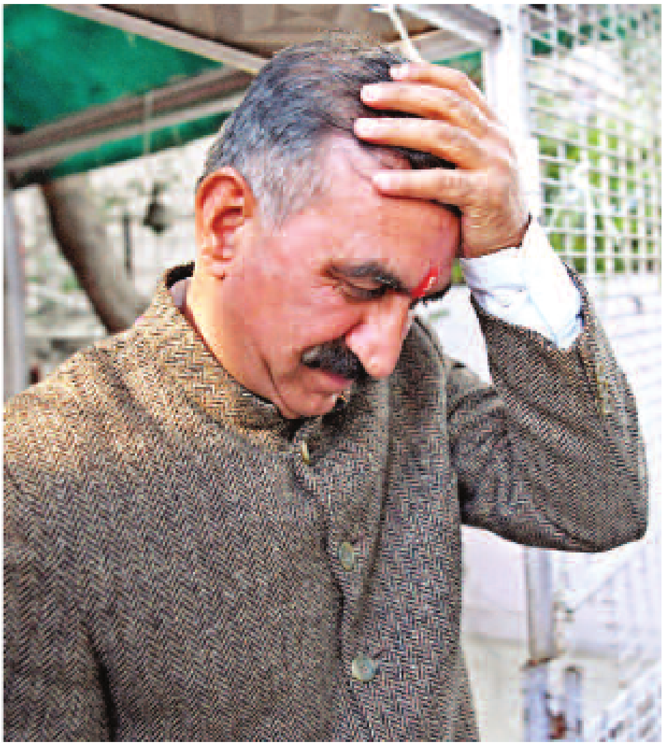
Bachubhai Khabad : Khabad is a four term MLA from Devgadh Baria Assembly Constituency and has previously served as a Minister of State for Fisheries, Forest and Environment in Anandiben Patel cabinet in 2014. He has been made MoS for Panchayat and Agriculture departments.

Mukesh Patel : An MLA from Olpad in the Surat district, Patel belongs to the Koli Patel community. He is a farmer and contractor and was a personal assistant to former Olpad BJP MLA Kiritbhai Patel in 2007. He has been given the charge of Forest and Environment, Climate Change, Water Resources and Water Supply departments as a junior minister.

Kunwarji Halpati : Halpati had won the Mandvi seat this year, which had been a Congress Bastian since independence. Halpati, a principal, took Voluntary Retirement Service of a secondary school of Mandvi. He will handle Tribal Development, Labour and Employment and Rural Development as an MoS.

Bhikhusinh Parmar : First-time MLA Parmar was elected from the Modasa constituency of the Aravalli district in north Gujarat and has defeated the Congress's sitting MLA Rajendrasinh Thakor with a margin of over 34,500 votes. Parmar is from an OBC community. He has been appointed a junior minister for Food and Civil Supply as well as Social Justice and Empowerment.

Praful Panseriya : Panseriya runs a media publicity and real estate businesses in Surat. He is from the Leuva Patidar community and has been associated with BJP for a long time. A former municipal councillor, he contested and won his first Assembly election from the Kamrej seat in 2012. ■



Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh

Pratibha Singh, President of Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee

CONGRESS' CRISIS CONTINUES

CONGRESS HAS MANAGED TO COME TO POWER IN HIMACHAL. HOWEVER, INFIGHT WITHIN THE PARTY FOR POWER IS CLEARLY EVIDENT. WILL RANI PRATIBHA AND HER SYMPATHISERS DERAIL CONGRESS' PLANS IN THE STATE? WILL CONGRESS BE ABLE TO APPEASE THE REBELS?

ANALYSIS

DR MAHENDER THAKUR

Himachal Pradesh-based Educator and Columnist

The election fever is over in the hill state of Himachal Pradesh. The Congress has managed to snatch power from Bharatiya Janata Party, continuing the tradition of change of governments every five years—a tradition that began in 1990. The Himachal Pradesh elections were fascinating this time, with a difference of only 0.9% vote share between the BJP and Congress. As per many experts, wrong ticket allotment and mishandling by the BJP are the reasons for the party's surprise defeat. Also, People say Old Pension Scheme (OPS) has been a blessing to Congress.

Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Rani Pratibha Singh, and Mukesh Agnihotri, three veteran Himachal Pradesh Congress leaders, deserve credit for the Congress victory. Following the declaration of the results, these three names naturally surfaced, with their loyalists creating the necessary hype

Rani Pratibha Singh, a sitting Lok Sabha MP, is the wife of the late Raja Virbhadra Singh, former Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh. Pratibha Singh is also a Lok Sabha MP. Vikramaditya Singh, their son, was also elected MLA from Shimla Rural for the second time. Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu is from Hamirpur and Mukesh Agnihotri is from Una.

Following the announcement of the election results, each of the three leaders launched their efforts to become Chief Minister. Rani Pratibha Singh batted hard, citing Virbhadra Singh's legacy. However, the Congress high command ignored her and appointed Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu as Chief Minister and Mukesh Agnihotri as Deputy Chief Minister in a bid to manage chaos.

The question is whether the Congress high command has effectively ended Virbhadra Singh's legacy by jolting the Rani group. It is because neither Rani Pratibha nor her son was appointed Chief Minister or Deputy Chief Minister. Rani Pratibha and her son Vikramaditya are now responsible for carrying on Virbhadra Singh's legacy. Whatever political success both (mother-son) have achieved is due to Raja Virbhadra Singh. On the other hand, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu and Mukesh Agnihotri have achieved this success on their own, working as ground-level workers of the party.

Virbhadra Singh was the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh for the longest time, yet his family (which includes an MP and a two-time MLA) has been sidelined. This has definitely disappointed his supporters.

The question is whether the Congress has plotted to completely demolishing Anurag Thakur's fort by appointing Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu as Chief Minister, and Mukesh Agnihotri as Deputy Chief Minister? Both leaders are from Anurag Thakur's Lok Sabha constituency. Sukhu is from Anurag Thakur's home district of Hamirpur, whereas Mukesh Agnihotri is from adjoining Una. Kangra district, which has the most assembly seats (15), borders these two districts. The irony with Kangra is that, following Shanta Kumar, no prominent leader from either party has arisen so far who has national clout. Anurag Thakur, along with BJP President JP Nadda, is the national face of Himachal Pradesh. While JP Nadda stays out of direct electoral politics as a Rajya Sabha MP, Anurag Thakur contests elections.

CONGRESS HIGH COMMAND HAS EFFECTIVELY ENDED VIRBHADRA SINGH'S LEGACY BY JOLTING THE RANI GROUP. NEITHER RANI PRATIBHA NOR HER SON WAS APPOINTED CHIEF MINISTER OR DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

As Congress has elected its Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister from Anurag Thakur's Lok Sabha constituency, Anurag Thakur may have to work hard in the forthcoming Lok Sabha elections in 2024. This is being said as Congress's masterstroke. Also, Congress' Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister can now directly influence 34 out of 68 assembly seats of Himachal (Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Una, and Kangra, Chamba Districts).

The BJP, led by former Chief Minister Jairam Thakur, won 9 of the 10 Mandi district seats in these elections. In the 2021 Lok Sabha by-election, Rani Pratibha Singh defeated the BJP candidate from this Mandi seat. The most remarkable aspect of this poll was that the BJP candidate had won the same seat by over 4 lakh votes in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. A by-election was later held, and the Congress' Pratibha Singh won. More than 4 lakh votes were overturned. Jairam Thakur has now won 9 of the 10 Mandi district seats (his home district).

Mandi is also considered a hilly district, whose leaders have an impact on Kullu and Lahaul Spiti. The hilly districts of Himachal, including Shimla, Kinnaur, Sirmour, Kullu, Mandi, etc. were the legacy of Raja Virbhadra Singh. Prem Kumar Dhumal, the BJP's longest-serving Chief Minister, hails from Hamirpur i.e. from Lower Himachal. By appointing Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu as Chief Minister and Mukesh Agnihotri as Deputy Chief Minister (both from lower Himachal), the Congress has rejected the legacy of Raja Virbhadra Singh.

What the Congress would give Rani Pratibha in the Himachal government remains to be seen. Will her son Vikramaditya be appointed as a minister? If so, how powerful will his ministry be? But there is a catch: there are numerous leaders senior to Vikramaditya; will Congress marginalize them or favour them? Congress infighting is slowly emerging, with veteran Solan district leader and former MP Dhaniram Sandilya reportedly furious with the Congress for failing to get the position of Deputy Chief Minister.

Because Congress has performed admirably in the Solan district, will Congress also appoint him as Deputy Chief Minister? If Sandilya gets the Deputy Chief Minister post, the Rani group will get very little. This could enrage the Rani group and spark a mutiny; this is no exaggeration. Another scenario to consider is what will happen if Shandilya does not receive what was expected, and the Rani Group does not receive it as well.

Despite the fact that Congress has formed the government, there is yet to be an upheaval. Such indicators are being received through the media. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu now has an enormous responsibility and a big opportunity too. Due to Congress's factionalism, he has a large responsibility to bring everyone together. If he is successful in bringing everyone together, he has a good chance of becoming the next Virbhadra Singh of the Himachal Congress.

Will the Sukhu-Agnihotri duo cause trouble for Anurag Thakur and JP Nadda in the future? Or will Rani Pratibha and her sympathisers derail Congress' plans? Will Congress be able to appease the rebels? Will the Old Pension Scheme be smoothly implemented, or will there be disruption? There are numerous such questions, the answers to which lay buried in the future. ■

SPOTLIGHT ON CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

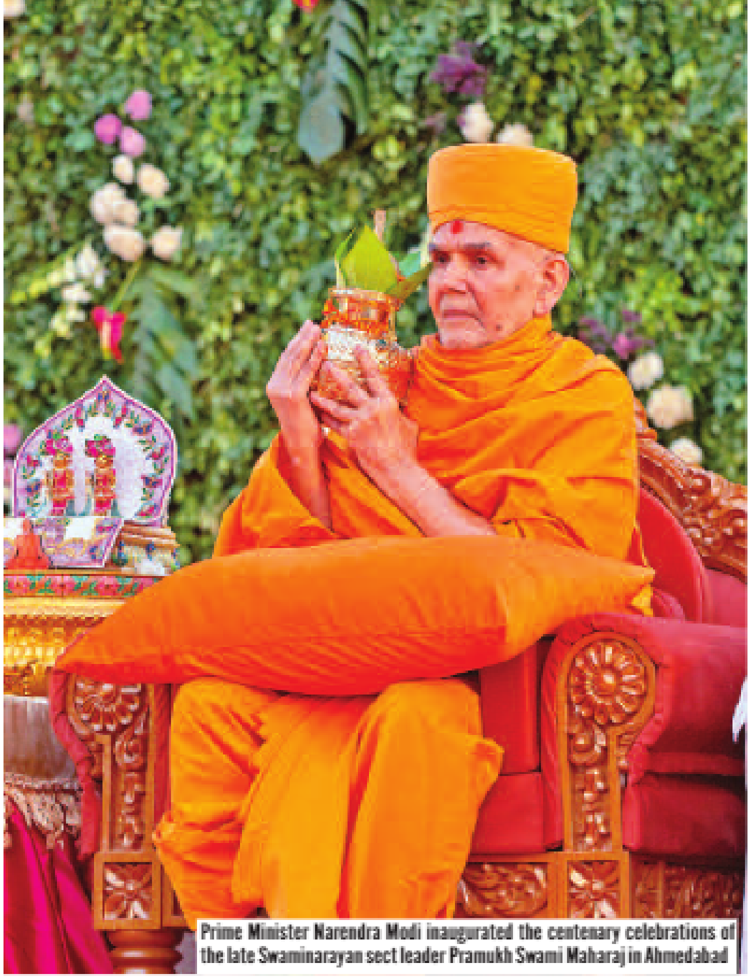
IN A BEFITTING TRIBUTE TO PRAMUKH SWAMI MAHARAJ, PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI SAID THAT SWAMI JI TAUGHT HIM THAT THE GREATEST GOAL IN LIFE IS TO SERVE OTHERS

ORGANISER BUREAU

The centenary celebrations of Pramukh Swami Maharaj, was inaugurated on December 14, 2022, in Ahmedabad, Gujarat by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The year-long worldwide celebrations have culminated in the 'Pramukh Swami Maharaj Shatabdi Mahotsav' hosted by BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir, Shahibaug, which is the global headquarters of BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha and is taking place from December 15, 2022, to January 15, 2023, in Ahmedabad. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister began his address by hailing Pramukh Swami Maharaj and welcoming everyone on the momentous occasion. He conveyed his feeling of the presence of divinity, grandeur of resolutions and pride for the heritage. He said, "One can see every colour of India on the premises."

Prime Minister thanked every saint for their efforts at giving significance to their power of imagination for coming up with this magnificent convention. He said that this grand event would attract the world and inspire and impact the coming generations. "I want to appreciate the saints and seers for thinking of a programme of this nature and at such a scale", he added. Calling Pujya Pramukh Swami Maharaj a father figure to him, the Prime Minister said that people will come to pay homage to him for this ongoing event. He also mentioned that the UN also celebrated the centenary celebration, which proves the eternal and universal significance of India's spiritual traditions and thought. Highlighting the emotion of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, which has been established and propagated by the great saints of India including Swami Maharaj, Prime Minister said that the journey from Ved to Vivekananda can be witnessed today in this centenary celebration.

"Pramukh Swami Maharaj taught me that the greatest goal in life is to serve others, and he inspired me to serve till my last breath. Pramukh Swami Maharaj did not give me great lectures, but delivered profound truths through simple words and his example. He cared for me even when I was not in office, just a mother would



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the centenary celebrations of the late Swaminarayan sect leader Pramukh Swami Maharaj in Ahmedabad

SERVING SOCIETY

The BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha is working for the betterment of society through individual development by instilling values, promoting spirituality, cultivating skills, and nurturing growth. It aims to preserve Indian culture and the Hindu ideals of faith, unity, and selfless service in diverse communities around the world. According to BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, it envisions a society whose joy lies in the joy of others. Based on the teachings of Bhagwan Swaminarayan, the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha promotes harmony amongst individuals, families, and diverse communities. Understanding that the synergy created from development at the individual level leads to greater societal growth, the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha provides for the spiritual, cultural, physical, and emotional needs of people from all walks of life.

With over 1,000 sadhus and 55,000 volunteers, the organisation helps 3,850 communities around the world through its various humanitarian services and grassroots initiatives. Through these efforts, BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha sustains the universal value of Hindu culture—encouraging devotion to God by imbibing such faith in all aspects of life. Notably, even in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, has been working round-the-clock to help people. This has involved the distribution of food, coordinating evacuation logistics and relief and rescue efforts across the eastern European region.

LIFE OF PRAMUKH SWAMI MAHARAJ

Pujya Pramukh Swami Maharaj (December 7, 1921 – August 13, 2016) the fifth spiritual successor in Bhagwan Swaminarayan's succession of Gunatit gurus, was born to a Patel family of Chansad village near Vadodara. Pramukh Swami Maharaj was named Shantilal Patel and later known as Shastri Narayanswarupdas. He received initiation as a Swami in 1940 from Shastriji Maharaj, the founder of the BAPS. He became head of BAPS in 1950. Former head and spiritual guru, Yogiji Maharaj declared him as his spiritual successor and guru of BAPS in 1971.

for her child. His presence always gave me peace and reassurance." said PM Modi

BAPS senior Swami Ishwarcharan Swami said, "On this historic inauguration of Pramukh Swami Maharaj's centenary celebrations Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken out time to come solely due to the strong bond of affection and reverence that he had for Pramukh Swami Maharaj."

Chief Minister of Gujarat Bhupendra Patel said, "As we have come together to celebrate the centenary of Bhagwan Swaminarayan's fifth spiritual successor Pramukh Swami Maharaj, all of us remember the many ways in which his life inspired us. He served all of humanity his entire life with a vision that transcended bodily distinctions. He inspired countless to transform their lives. After the terrorist attack on Akshardham, his actions set an example for the world of peace and forgiveness that became renowned as 'the Akshardham Response'. He provided comfort to all in need, providing aid to the disaster-stricken. He personally inspired thousands to become addiction-free. One of his greatest contributions is the inspiration of family unity. This is a festival to pay tribute to the invaluable contributions he had made to society." ■

"RSS trained me to think more rationally than emotionally" — PS Sreedharan Pillai

PS Sreedharan Pillai, Governor of Goa, on December 14, 2022, said in Kochi that we do have a workaholic Prime Minister, and that is the strength of our democracy. He added that 'loose talk' has no room in democracy. He was speaking at "Ezhuthaazham @ 182" (Depth of Writing @ 182), a programme organised in Kochi International Book Festival (KIBF) in connection with the release of four books, authored by Sreedharan Pillai, and the celebration of the release of his 182nd book. "Orientation on Education", "Anthology of Official Address", "Musings on Social and Economic Issues", and "Kadhayalla Kadhakal" (compilation of Malayalam stories) were released on the occasion by mega star Mammootty.

Sreedharan Pillai said Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh(RSS) trained him to think more rationally than emotionally. When the rulers treated a section of the people as second-class citizens under the drastic Democracy rule during 1975 – 1977, Param Pujaniya Sarsanghchalak Shri Balasaheb Deorasji, who was jailed in Yerwada Central Prison, called on the workers to protest in Gandhian non-violent style. The same protest was adopted when the Sangh was banned in 1948.

Governor criticised K Muraleedharan MP, Congress leader and son of former CM K Karunakaran, for insulting him three times. He was referring to Muraleedharan's senseless statement that Kerala Governor is always out of state and Goa Governor is always in Kerala. Sreedharan Pillai said his father was an ordinary farmer, not a Chief Minister. He believes that people wield the ultimate power and nothing is above that. He added that the same MP once demanded to imprison him for a reference he made during the Sabarimala agitation of 2018. He wonders if this approach of the MP is due to the 'compensation case' of Prof Eachara Warrier. (Prof Warrier was the father of P Rajan, the engineering student who was killed in police custody during the Emergency. K Karunakaran resigned as CM in April 1977 after hardly spending one month in office in connection with the Rajan case). He said MP should know what happened to the people who earned a lot. Governor said he knows the history of the people responsible for that young student's tragic death.

The almighty God would not let anyone go scot-free. He asked the MP not to utter nonsense for the sake of applause.

PS Sreedharan Pillai, Governor of Goa during book launch ceremony in Kochi

Even though the Governor criticised the M.P. in harsh language, he did not mention his name, not even once. But the audience got the message and roared their approval with thunderous applause. Governor added that the media are not to blame because they give what people need. In a democracy, we have to respect political opponents as our friends. No other state 'enjoys' this much 'harvest of hatred' as Kerala does.

Governor said that for Mahatmaji and Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay, the welfare state, meant the development of the lowest strata of the population. Deenadayali called it 'Anthyodaya'. He could study the conditions of the ordinary people during his traverse in the villages of Goa.

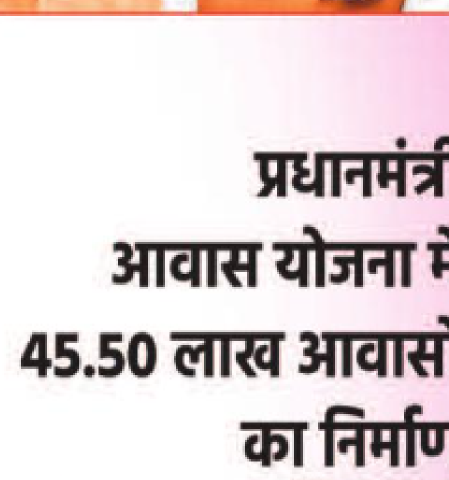
Justice Cyriac Joseph, Lok Ayukta, Keralam and former Supreme Court Judge, said that imaginative talents, instinct and flair to dream and positive energy are the glitters of Sreedharan Pillai's literary works. Mega Star and matinee idol Mammootty said that '182nd book' is an incredible surprise. He said it takes about two days to complete a letter. Matters taking place in the thoughts develop into writing after intellectual treatment.

T. Asaf Ali, former DGP Kerala High Court, said that Sreedharan Pillai took proactive steps like a prophet to bring peace to the post-riot Marad. Novelist Abraham Mathew said that Shri Pillai is usually kind and docile. He is calm and quiet in debates, but at the same time, he strictly sticks to his decisions and principles.

Dr J Prameeladevi, the former chairperson of the Kerala Women's Commission, said that Shri Pillai's books deserve detailed studies. Despite versatile and heavy responsibilities and tedious professional compulsions, Shri Pillai keeps on writing. That is Shri Pillai's peculiarity. ■

प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (ग्रामीण)

प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना में 45.50 लाख आवासों का निर्माण



डबल इंजन की सरकार - विकास की दोगुनी रफ़्तार

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

काशी तमिल संगमम्
காசி தமிழ் சங்கமம்

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, state Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Minister of State Information and Broadcasting Minister, Dr L. Murugan and others at the inauguration of the Kashi Tamil Sangamam, in Varanasi

GANGA: A CONFLUENCE OF REVERENCE

EVERY YEAR GANGA HAS BEEN GUSING IN A TAMILNADU VILLAGE FOR MORE THAN 300 YEARS; IS A SILENT MESSAGE OF SOCIAL HARMONY

ANALYSIS

A RAMAKRISHNA PRASAD
Chennai-based Columnist

At a time when 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam', a month-long celebration is going on, which is organised to reaffirm and rediscover the age-old links between Tamil Nadu and Kashi, it is pertinent to point out the emotional and devotional connection is still prevalent between Tamil Nadu and River Ganga. For more than 300 years, people of Tamil Nadu have been taking the holy bath of Ganga Jal every year, which gushes out in a well in Thirivisinallur village, near Kumbakonam on the new moon day in Karthika month.

BOND BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

This year, on November 23rd (New Moon Day), an on the spot visit was made (by Sri S Sambamurthy, former Pranta Karyavah, Uttar Tamil Nadu, Sri B.Prakash, Dakshin Kshetra Samparkka Pramukh and the author). When we reached the spot around 5.30 am, there was already a big queue of thousands of devotees in wet clothes, after having a dip in River Cauvery and eagerly awaiting to have the holy bath of Ganga Jal.

A large screen was put up outside the house of Sridhara Ayyaval. We could see on the screen the priest chanting *mantras* and performing *pooja* to the well (which was decorated with flowers), where *holy Ganges* pumps out inside the well every year on this day. After the *pooja* was culminated, *arathi* was performed to the well with all the devotees chanting 'Gangethi, Gangethi'. This was followed by priests rendering *Gangashtakkam*, eight verses on holy

Ganges, along with hundreds of devotees sitting around the well. Soon after this, the whole atmosphere was reverberating with chanting of *Gangadhara*, *Gangadhara*' by the devotees inside and outside the premises with emotional and devotional fervour. Immediately, six persons climbed on the well with buckets tied with ropes and drew *Gangaajal* from the well and poured it on the heads of devotees, who devotedly took the holy bath chanting aloud *Gangadhara, Gangadhara* repeatedly.

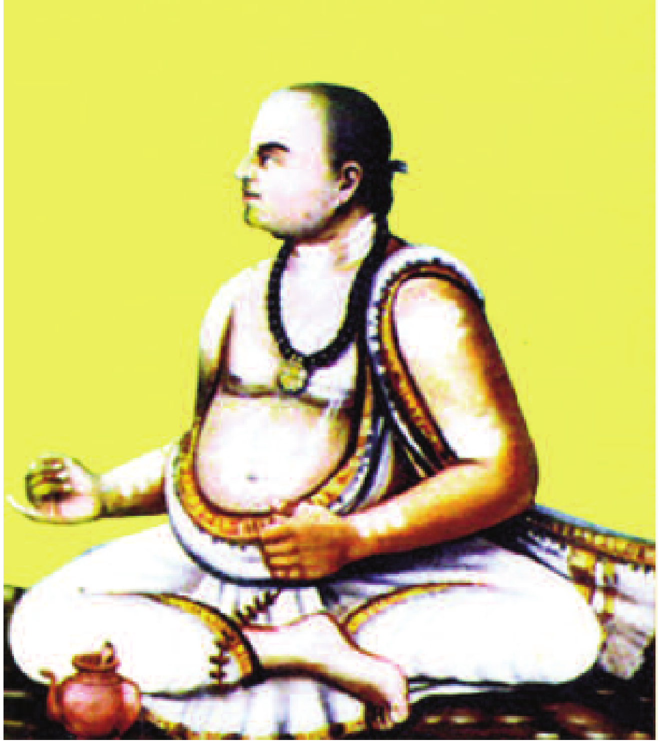
BREAKING BARRIERS

Thousands of devotees (men, women, children, belonging to all castes), who were standing in the queue, entered the premises and took holy dip and some even took the Ganga Jal in water bottles and vessels. After this, all the devotees paid homage to the Samadhi of Sridhara Ayyaval, which is adjacent to the well, and everybody was offered Vibhoothi, Kumkum and prasad. It was a wonderful sight to see as the entire atmosphere became filled with devotion to holy Ganges and Bhagwan Shiva. This holy bath goes on till evening. This incidence of holy dip together by people, belonging to all castes every year, marks the silent revolution of social harmony and interconnectedness and bondage between North and South. The entire occasion was well organised.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SAINT

Sridhara Venkatesa Dikshitar (1635-1720), known as Sridhara Ayyaval, was a revolutionary saint, who was looked upon by all living beings as Bhagwan. One day, he was on his way to River Cauvery for a bath. It was a day of 'Sraardha' (annual death rites for ancestors) in his home and all food offerings were ready. On the way, he found a poor Scheduled Caste fallen down in an unconscious state due to hunger. Unable to bear the sight of the suffering of the poor man, Sridhara Ayyaval rushed back to his home and returned with the food prepared for the ceremony and gave it to the man. Sridhara Ayyaval, who saw Bhagwan in all, neither had a second thought about doing this nor was he othered about the outcome of the act. He knew that by appeasing the hunger of this man he would be pleasing Bhagwan. After giving him food, Sridhara Ayyaval went back home and cooked fresh food for the priests and invited them to perform the ceremony.

The priests, who were to perform the ceremony, were a jealous lot who envied Sridhara Ayyaval and chose this as the right moment to create trouble for him. They picked up an argument with him on this matter. Sridhara Ayyaval quoted scriptures to show the greatness of timely help and said it was in no way wrong to feed a hungry SC. However, the priests were adamant and refused to accept any explanation. They all walked out of the house and announced a social boycott of Sridhara Ayyaval. Sridhara Ayyaval accepted this too as the divine will of Bhagwan and continued the ceremony without the help of the priests.



Sridhara Venkatesa Dikshitar (1635-1720)

> THIS HOLY DIP TOGETHER BY PEOPLE, BELONGING TO ALL CASTES EVERY YEAR, MARKS THE SILENT REVOLUTION OF SOCIAL HARMONY AND INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND BONDAGE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH. THE ENTIRE OCCASION WAS WELL ORGANISED

Though the ceremony was performed in this manner that year, the following year Sridhara Ayyaval, very compassionate, requested the priests to participate in the ceremony. The arrogant priests refused the invitation bluntly. Sridhara Ayyaval pleaded with them to accept his invitation and said that he would carry out any atonement that they prescribed for the act of feeding the poor man. The priests then said, "Take a dip in the Holy Ganga. That is the only atonement for the act." Sridhara Ayyaval replied, "The Holy Ganga is up north and I am already old. I do not think I

HIDDEN TREASURES

நற்றிணை
தெளிவுரை
புலியூர்க்கேசிகன்

Tamils even knew that sacred Ganges branches into thousands of smaller streams just before entering into Bay of Bengal. Sangam poet Mankudi Maruthan compares the lively Madurai market to the Ganges. Saivite saint Appar also refers to it as thousand faced Ganges.

Interestingly, Tamil literature reveals unknown yet secret information about the Ganges. Tamil literature uses the sacred river as a symbol for the generosity and philanthropy of kings and chieftains. They came to know about the river only from Kalidasa and other Sanskrit works. Poet Mamulanar in *Akam 265* says that the Nanda Kings have hidden enormous treasure under the Ganges in Pataliputra (modern Patna in Bihar).

Narrinai poet Madurai Nalvellaiyar (verse 369) used Ganges in a statement by a heroine who feels that her love is so powerful that it overcomes her self-control like the great floods in the Ganges that overflows the banks and smashes the dams in its course. Another anonymous poet says that the hero might have gone somewhere by a boat in the Ganges

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can travel that far. Instead, I shall bring the Holy Ganga to me in the well here in my backyard." Saying this, he prayed to Holy Ganga through eight verses of Gangashtakam composed by him then. And lo! The holy river Ganga gushed out of the well in the backyard of Sridhara Ayyaval's home! The priests were terrified to witness this miracle. Now they were alarmed to see the river gush out to the roads! They ran and fell at Sridhara Ayyaval's feet and begged his pardon.

They requested Sridhara Ayyaval to send the river back! Sridhara Ayyaval then prayed to Mother Ganga to stay in his well in the backyard of his home forever for the benefit of the people. The holy river Ganga paid heed to his prayer and subsided into the well. This incident occurred on the new moon day in the month of 'Karthika'. Hence, people throng to this place on this day of new moon to have holy bath.

The 'Gangaavatarana-mahotsavam' is celebrated for ten days by the mutt every year in a grand manner, preceding that new moon day. Due to the presence of holy Ganga, the place is considered as Kashi, the mandapam adjoining the well is called Viswanatha Mandapam, the dining hall, where Annadanam is offered is called Annapoorna Hall. Sadashiva Brahmendra's song Tunga Tarange Gange was written on Ayyaval who brought the Ganges.

Bhagavan Nama Bodendra Swamigal, who was a contemporary of Sridhara Ayyaval. Bodesndra Swamigal had deep reverence for Sridhara Ayyaval. They used to meet often and enjoy the bliss of talking about the glory of the Lord. Sadashiva Brahmendra, another great Saint of the same time, also used to join Sridhara Ayyaval and Bodendra Swamigal in their discussions.

> RIVER GANGA GUSHED OUT OF THE WELL IN THE BACKYARD OF SRIDHARA AYYAVAL'S HOME! THE PRIESTS WERE TERRIFIED TO WITNESS THIS MIRACLE. NOW THEY WERE ALARMED TO SEE THE RIVER GUSH OUT TO THE ROADS

Sridhara Ayyaval spent every moment of his life striving to uplift the masses by spreading the nectarine Divine names of the Bhagwan. Today, the small *mutt* which houses this great soul stands as a witness to the life & times of this revolutionary saint. ■

आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

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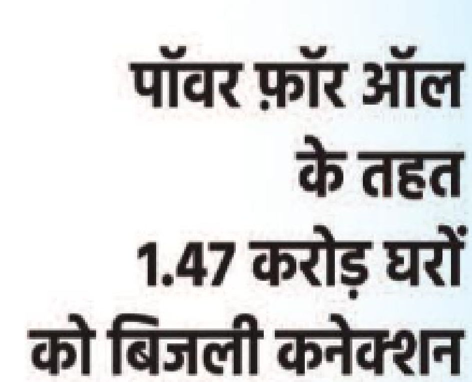


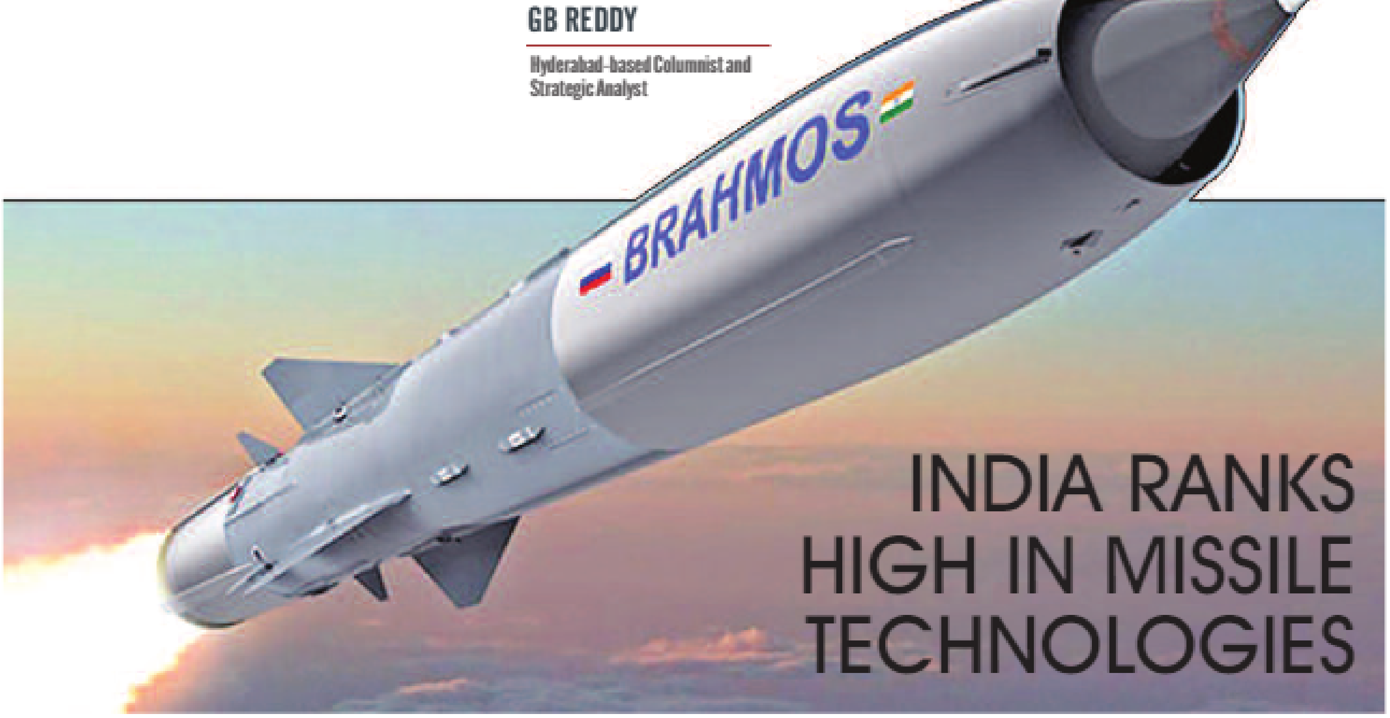
डबल इंजन की सरकार - विकास की दोगुनी रफ़्तार

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

COLUMN/ TECH RACE

GB REDDY

Hyderabad-based Columnist and Strategic Analyst



INDIA RANKS HIGH IN MISSILE TECHNOLOGIES

TECHNOLOGY IS TURNING OUT TO BE A CRITICAL FACTOR IN GEOPOLITICS OF NEW WORLD ORDER. TO UNDERSTAND THE REALITY OF "WHERE DOES INDIA STAND IN THE TECHNOLOGY RACE", A HOLISTIC REVIEW IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES HAS BEEN ATTEMPTED SO THAT THE "MEDIA DEBATES" WITH SCIENTISTS, TECHNOLOGISTS AND STRATEGIC EXPERTS PROVIDE A BALANCED PERSPECTIVE OF INDIA'S RANKING IN VARIOUS FIELDS. HERE IS A SECOND COLUMN IN THE SERIES FOCUSING ON MISSILE TECHNOLOGY:

Missile technologies covers a broad spectrum to include Surface-to-Surface Strategic ballistic Missiles (Multiple Independently Reentry Vehicle - MIRV; and Maneuverable Reentry Vehicle - MARV), Short-range Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile (SSBM), submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM); air to air missiles (AAM); Surface-to-Air Missiles (SAM); Anti-ballistic missile (ABM), Cruise Missiles, Anti-Tank Missiles (ATGMs), and Anti-Satellite Missiles (A-SAT) to hit targets in space. India is also one of the four nations owning ABM and A-SAT systems.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

According to a report in the *New York Times*, India has successfully tested hypersonic technology missiles, whereas the US, Russia and China have already operational hypersonic technology missiles. With AGNI-5, India features in the 7th rank of most powerful Missiles in the world 2022. Holistically viewed, India remains a laggard in the Global Rankings in Missile Technologies, particularly behind China.

TWO POWERFUL VARIANTS

Hypersonic weapons are of two types: hypersonic cruise missiles and hypersonic boost-glide vehicles. The former type is powered by rockets or jets throughout their flight and is a much swifter version of existing cruise missiles. The latter type is launched into the upper atmosphere on top of existing ballistic missiles, and then releases hypersonic glide vehicles (HGVs), which flies lower, faster, and, to an enemy, quite unpredictably.

China has two lethal hypersonic missiles. The first one, Dong Feng-17 (DF-17), is a medium-range missile or MRBM system equipped with an HGV. It is capable of carrying conventional or nuclear weapons and has a reported speed of Mach 5-10. With a range of 1,800-2,500km and a launch weight of 15,000 kgs, the DF-17 is a nightmare for all adversaries. The second is the DF-ZF HGV that too can travel at speeds between Mach 5-10. It is apparently capable of performing "extreme manoeuvres" to evade enemy defences. The DF-17 has been designed to work specifically with the DF-ZF, exponentially amplifying both these weapons' powers. Russia has three major hypersonic weapons — the Avangard, the Kinzhal, and the Zircon. Compared to Russia and China, the US is lagging behind in hypersonic technology. The test involving a prototype of the AGM-183A Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW), a hypersonic missile, has failed. The missile was able to successfully separate from the B-52H bomber which was carrying it. However, the rocket engine did not ignite.

FILLIP TO DEFENSE RESEARCH

In 2021-2022, Rs 11,375.50 crore was the budget. In 2010, DRDO was directed to carry out restructuring to give 'a major boost to defence research and to ensure effective participation of the private sector in defence technology. The key measures to make Defense Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) effective in its functioning included the establishment of a Defence Technology Commission with the defence minister as its Chairman. In retrospect, the Comptroller and Auditor General report on the projects undertaken by the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) from 2007-2017 highlighting that the lab has undertaken projects aimlessly without any focus and priority, spending money on research which has been abandoned without completion and also attributed to non-involvement of user representatives neither in the pre-project work nor during project execution. For example, DRDO started its first major project in SAM known as Project Indigo in the 1960s. Indigo was discontinued without achieving full success.

The Agni-III is an intermediate-range ballistic missile with a range of 3,000 – 3,500 km. It entered service with India's Strategic Forces Command in 2011, serving alongside the Agni-II as a nuclear delivery system.

Project Indigo led to Project Devil, along with Project Valiant, to develop short-range SAM and ICBM in the 1970s. Project Devil led to development of the Prithvi missile under Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) in the 1980s.

India domestically produces only 45 per cent to 50 per cent of defence products it uses, and the rest are imported. Of late, DRDO has embarked on collaboration with industry, private sector, research and education institutes including IITs and NITs. Also, to expedite the development cycle of new technologies and to better fit the end user requirements, the Army has asked DRDO to take more army staff on deputation to be part of DRDO technology development project teams.

To understand India's present ranking, few of the highlights of transformations in Missile Technologies globally include intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with a range greater than 5,500 km (3,400 mi), primarily designed for nuclear weapons delivery: World War II - Germany V-2 program; early Cold War - first successful test of R-7 by USSR followed and operational unit on February 9, 1959; 1970 fully operational ABM by USSR; 1980s USA's Strategic Defense Initiative as well as the MX programmes; 2009 Russia announced RS-28 Sarmat, liquid-fueled, MIRV/MARV equipped warheads, super-heavy thermonuclear armed ICBM with a large payload up to 10 heavy warheads or 15 lighter ones or up to 24 hypersonic glide vehicles or a combination of warheads and massive amounts of countermeasures designed to defeat anti-missile systems; in early 1970s China developed DF-5 with a range of 10,000 to 12,000 km by 1975 and by 2014, China announced DF- 41, a GEN 4 solid-fuelled road-mobile missile with MIRV capability.

Anti Tank Guided Missile (ATGMs) - GEN 1 early Cold War (1955 wire guided) to GEN 2 late Cold War (semi-

DRDO
शौर्य
SHAURYA

New Shaurya Missile

automatically command guided to line-of-sight), to GEN 3 post Cold War ("fire-and-forget" missiles that rely on a laser, electro-optical imager (IIR) seeker or a W band radar seeker in the nose of the missile) to GEN 4 post 2000 (stand-off range of 15 to 20 km and rely on a combination of seeker for guidance) and GEN 5 post 2015-2017 (network-enabled, featuring both fire-and-forget and command guidance operating modes that integrates third party target designation for indirect firing scenarios through its lock-on after launch capability for non-line-of-sight (NLOS) use.

Headway in Research And Development

Notwithstanding lack of clarity in decision making, financial constraints, import restrictions and India becoming a member of the Missile Technology Control Regime only on June 27, 2016, DRDOs progress in R & D of missile technologies are quite significant particularly during recent times.

Let me outline DRDO's achievements in the missile technology field. Missiles are weapons that are launched from ground-based guns, ships, and aircraft into the air and explode with a large amount of explosives. India's lethal and advanced missile systems include Surface to Surface Strategic ballistic Missiles, Short-range Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile (SSBM), Submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM); air to air missiles (AAM); Surface-to-Air Missiles (SAM); Anti-ballistic missile (ABM), Cruise Missiles, Anti Tank Missiles (ATGMs), and Anti Satellite Missiles (A-SAT) to hit targets in space. India is also one of the four nations owning ABM and A-SAT systems.

Ballistic missiles are used to deliver nuclear, chemical, biological or conventional warheads in a ballistic attack. The IGMDP was spearheaded by former DRDO chief in the early 1980s and former President, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, hailed as the Missile Man.

New Shaurya Missile: Nuclear capable two-stage cruise surface-to-surface medium range missile that uses solid propellant, canister launched, hypersonic (speeds of 7.5 Mach) tactical missile with 750 to 1,900 km range. The missile is equipped with multiple advanced computing technology and high accuracy navigation, efficient propulsion, sophisticated control and guidance systems.

BrahMos Series: Medium-range stealth ramjet supersonic cruise missile that can be launched from submarines, ships, aircraft or land, already in service. A hypersonic version of the missile, BrahMos-II, estimated to have a range of 600 km, is under development with a speed of Mach 7–8 to boost aerial fast strike capability. It was expected to be ready for testing by 2024. Next, BrahMos-NG (Next Generation) is a mini version with 290 km range and Mach 3.5 speed but weighing around 1.5 tons, with a length of 5 metres and a diameter of 50 cm, making BrahMos-NG 50 per cent lighter and three metres shorter than its predecessor. The system is expected to be inducted in the year 2024. BrahMos-NG will have land, air, ship-borne and Submarine tube-launched variants. Even plans are afoot for the UCAV variant.

Nirbhay subsonic cruise missile: With maximum range of 1,000 to 1500 km to destroy target with a Mach 0.8 speed. This missile can be launched from multiple platforms and is capable of carrying conventional and nuclear warheads. India has Sagarika (K-15) with a range of 750 km designed for retaliatory nuclear strikes; and nuclear-capable K-4 Ballistic Missile (IRBN) to arm Arihant-class submarines with a range of 5,000 km. The latest GEN-5 short-range missiles with electro-optical imaging infrared (IIR) seekers allows the missiles to "see" images rather than single "points" of infrared radiation (heat) and more powerful digital signal processing, greater sensitivity, greater range and ability to identify smaller low flying targets such as UAVs.

SAMs: Trishul missiles are short-range surface to air missiles with an operational range of 9 km; Three variants of Akash Missile at various stages of development: Akash-1S, Akash Mark-II, Akash-NG with the Akash -1S can travel up to a distance of 18 to 30 km, while the Akash Mk-II and Akash-NG can travel 35 to 40 km and more than 50 km, respectively; and, Barak 8 - long-range Indo-Israeli surface to Air Barak 8 Missile can travel up to a distance of 100 km to hit the target with Mach 2 speed, i.e., twice the speed of sound or 2470 km/hr. Prithvi Air Defence (PAD), two-stage liquid and solid-fueled ballistic missile defence high altitude interceptor, based on the Prithvi missile.

A-SAT Missile: In March 2019, India joined an exclusive club of countries that has the capability to hit a target in space as it tested the anti-satellite missile via 'Mission Shakti'.

Anti-tank Guided Missiles (ATGM): Amogha-1 - GEN-2 ATGM, man portable, vehicle and aircraft mounted missile with range up to 2.8km indigenously developed.

Nag, GEN-3, all-weather, fire and forget ATGM with range of 500m to 20km and a ten-year, maintenance-free shelf life with five variants - a land version, for a mast-mounted system; the helicopter-launched Nag (HELINA) also known as Dhruvastra; a "man-portable" version (MPATGM); an air-launched version; and the Nag Missile Carrier (NAMICA) "tank buster", which is a modified BMP-2 infantry fighting vehicle (IFV).

Spike Long Range (LR), man portable GEN 4 system which can engage targets in both Fire & Forget and Fire, Observe & Update mode, thus enhancing the operational flexibility and crew survivability besides precise engagement both during day and night and also has Top Attack capability to enhance the lethality of the missile against tank targets. Recently, DRDO has successfully test fired indigenously developed Laser-Guided ATGM, man-portable fire-and-forget missile or tripod or vehicle or aircraft mounted version, which relies on an electro-optical imager (IIR) seeker, a laser or a W-band radar seeker in the nose of the missile, employing High Explosive warhead to defeat Explosive Reactive Armour protected armour vehicles.

SUCCESS STORY OF MAKE IN INDIA

Of significance is the set up of a joint venture of MBDA (France), world leader in missile systems, with Larsen & Toubro - L & T MBDA Missile Systems Limited (LTMMSL) under the 'Make In India' initiative. LTMMSL has a clear vision regarding development and manufacture of ATGM-5 or family of weapons that matches the requirements and specifications of the Armed Forces.

Furthermore, during the 'Vibrant Goa Global Expo' and 'Summit 2019', DRDO signed technology transfer contracts with 16 Indian companies, including 3 startups, to produce products. DRDO and ISRO has agreed to collaborate in India's crewed orbital spacecraft project called Gaganyaan. Kalyani Group is developing the DRDO Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS). In diverse fields, the DRDO achievements are quite noteworthy particularly after 2020. On December 16, 2021, Ashok Leyland signed a partnership agreement with Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment (CVRDE) to develop 600 hp engines for the Future Combat Vehicle Programme. Instruments Research and Development Establishment (IRDE) on December 27, 2021, transferred technologies for developing border surveillance systems to Indian private sector company Paras Defence and Space. The system consists of radar, electro-optical sensors mounted on a pan tilt platform. On December 28, 2021, Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS) transferred technology to manufacture extreme cold weather clothing systems to RHD Business Services, SBNX Innovation, Shiva Texyarn Limited, Kusumgar Corporates and Ginni Filaments Limited. Finally, DRDO has created other major systems and critical technologies such as aircraft avionics, UAVs, small arms, artillery systems, EW Systems, tanks and armoured vehicles, sonar systems, command and control systems and missile systems.

Anti-tank Guided Missiles

However, DRDO is also involved in commercial programmes, which is not their primary responsibility. Surely, there are other government R & D agencies available to clean lakes, low-cost bio-digesters for the treatment of human excreta, animal waste disposal, grey water and kitchen waste release and also augmenting diagnostic capability for COVID–19 outbreak, special hand sanitiser formulation and diagnostic kits and suits.

To sum up, until 2000 "Empire Building Ethos" structure of DRDO, rigid compartmentalisation, working in isolation without user participation resulted in time and cost overruns. Abandonment was the norm after incurring expenditure. However, after streamlining of structure, public-private partnership and leadership guidance after 2000, DRDO has been able to shed its past and embark on catching up with the rest in Missile Technologies of various types. High time for the DRDO to also abandon R & D efforts in civilian commercial ventures and focus only on military technologies to catch up with the rest on top of the ladder. Its sole focus must remain to race to the top of the ladder. ■

COLUMN

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THE ARCHITECT OF 'POLITICAL VEDANTA'

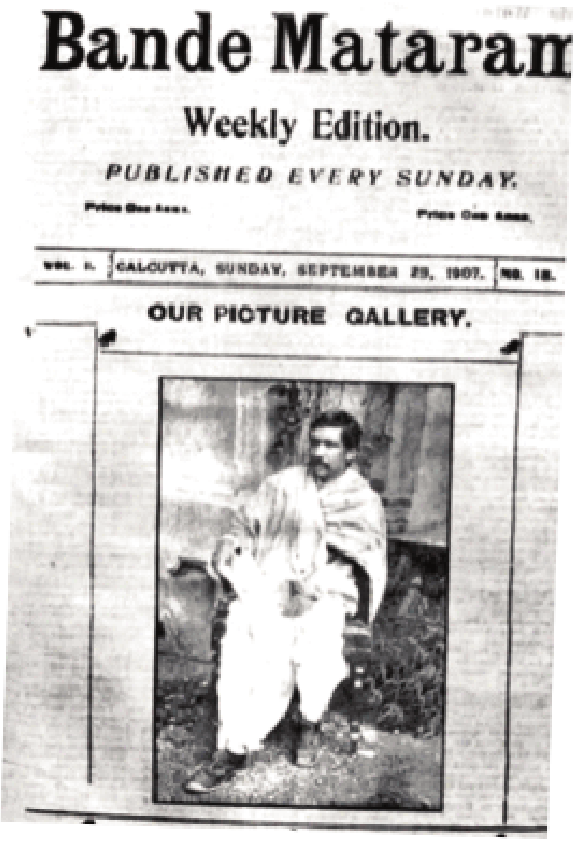
EVEN THOUGH SRI AUROBINDO SPENT HIS FORMATIVE YEARS IN ENGLAND, MASTERING WESTERN CLASSICS, HIS THEORY OF POLITICAL VEDANTA, WHICH EXERTED A SHAPING INFLUENCE ON OUR FREEDOM STRUGGLE, WAS ROOTED FIRMLY IN BHARAT'S OWN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

In 1893, when the twenty-one year old Aurobindo Ghosh returned to India, he couldn't even speak Bengali, his mother tongue. By then, he had spent fourteen of his formative years in England, having distinguished himself academically—first at St. Paul's school, London, and later at King's College, Cambridge. However, over the next two decades, Sri Aurobindo came to represent the spirit of Indian patriotism, both in theory and praxis; he was to become the most prominent face of Bharat's yearnings for freedom. And by the time he left for Pondicherry in 1910, he had set firmly into place not just the ideals and connotations of our nationalism, but also its objectives and methods. Such was the sheer force and efficacy of his strategy that all those who came after him, including Gandhi, could not help resorting to them.

Put plainly, Sri Aurobindo was arguably the greatest and certainly among the earliest thinkers of India's complete decolonisation. However, his swift rise to astronomical prominence as well as his lasting legacy, when viewed against the backdrop of his life in England, appears rather baffling. This begs a pertinent question, the answer to which will unpack the very essence of Sri Aurobindo's anti-colonial thoughts: how come a Victorian gentleman, trained on English soil, succeeds in conquering our country's imagination?

THREE SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT IN 19TH CENTURY BENGAL

In the late 19th century Bengal, to which Aurobindo returned, one comes across three schools of thoughts on Bharat's intellectual and political awakening. The first school, as represented by Raja Ram Mohan Roy and his ardent follower Rabindranath Tagore, advocates



Bande Mataram

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OUR PICTURE GALLERY.

cultural assimilation and empathy between the East and the West. To them, Bharat and England should meet as equals and capitalise on their intertwined political ties to forge deeper sympathies. This tendency triggered politics of reform, petitioning, and eventually, the moderate faction within the Congress. The second school, as typified by the likes of Michael Madhusudan Dutta and Bengal's English-speaking professionals—like Dr Krishna Dhan Ghosh, the anglicised father of Sri Aurobindo—looked upon English presence in India as fortuitous. To them, conditions of colonisation presented an opportunity to radically restructure Indian society in the light of Western and Christian thoughts. Naturally, they responded in ways that may reek of unqualified surrender. While Dutta converted to Christianity and spent a lifetime singing paeans to Greek and English literature, Dr Ghosh took his three sons—including a seven years old Aurobindo—to England, put them in the care of an English clergyman, and forbade them from making contact with anything Indian.

Sri Aurobindo at St. Paul's School, London 1884

The third school of thought, championed with aplomb by the likes of Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Swami Vivekanand and Sri Aurobindo, believed that India had something profound to offer to the world, particularly to the morally bankrupt West. They had utmost faith in our ancient scriptures and the pan-Bharat religiosity our sacred texts animated. However, in order to provide intellectual and spiritual leadership to the world, at first, Bharat much smash the shackles of political servitude. Further, for unfettering our political destiny, the country must rely on its core resource—faith, religious fervor, and the spirit of sacrifice and renunciation of our sages. In other words, Bharat had to live by its age-old wisdom, enshrined in Vedas and Upanishads, embodied by its monks and mystics.

NATION AS SHAKTI, PATRIOT AS SANYASI

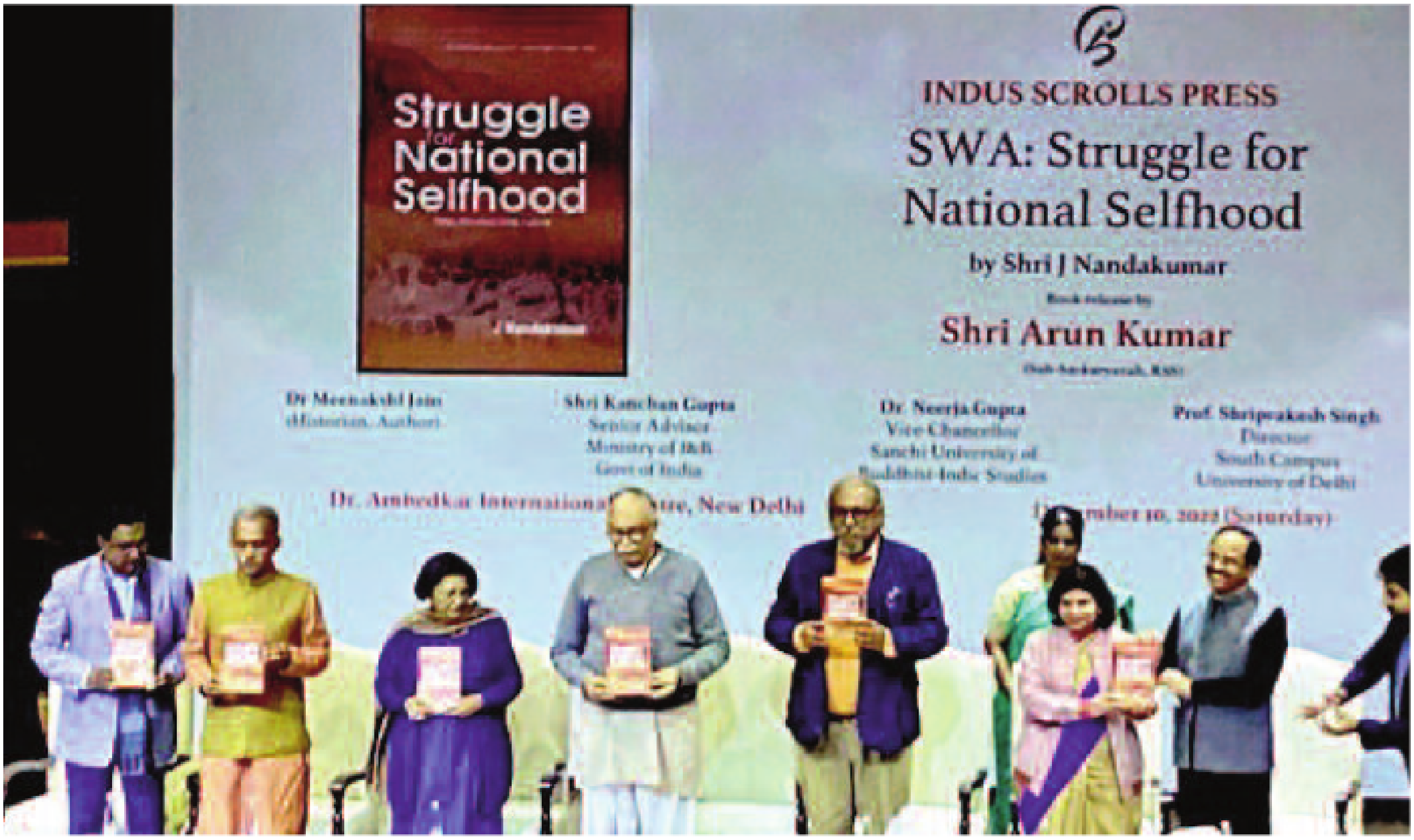
In this order of things, nation is not just a lifeless geopolitical territory to be won, guarded and defended against enemies; it becomes the summation of the life-forces of all those who live in it. Nation emerges as a source of their nourishment, a benevolent goddess who provides for her inhabitants, just as a mother provides for her children. In other words, nation becomes the one true subject of their devotion. 'What is a nation?' asks Aurobindo rhetorically. 'It is a mighty Shakti, composed of all the Shaktis of all the millions of units that make up the nation,' he explains.

Having equated nation with mother goddess, he goes on to define nationalism as 'a religion that comes from God—a creed which you [patriot] shall have to live.' Under the circumstances, the patriot becomes an 'instrument of God,' charged with a sacred mission. It is therefore only fair that from Bankim's Anand Maths to Sri Aurobindo's conceptualisation of the true patriot, the figure of *sanyasi* figures prominently in the third school of thought. His method, as Sri Aurobindo outlines in an article in Bande Matram published in 1907, is 'political Vedantism.' He developed Swami Vivekanand's 'practical Vedanta' into an elaborate theory better suited for application in the political realm. If Vivekanand described God as the sum total of all humanity, Aurobindo argues that nation itself is the clearest manifestation of that divinity, which he likens to Kali. To serve this nation, he calls upon a new order of *sanyasis* willing to die for her sake.

IF VIVEKANAND DESCRIBED GOD AS THE SUM TOTAL OF ALL HUMANITY, AUROBINDO ARGUES THAT NATION ITSELF IS THE CLEAREST MANIFESTATION OF THAT DIVINITY

It must be underscored that it was this ability to mobilise the profundity of India's indigenous knowledge resources that endeared him to the masses. This project, as Sri Aurobindo envisioned it, was not only meant to secure political freedom for Bharat; it would have led to the spiritual salvation of the entire world. His identification of mother India with Shakti ignited a social churning whose imprints can be seen all through Bharat's long attempts at decolonisation—earlier political decolonisation, now cultural decolonisation. It not only served the cause of our freedom struggle, inspiring generations of patriots ready to lay down their lives for the country, but continues to shape new India's destiny.

(This is the first of the three-part essay on Sri Aurobindo's philosophy of decolonisation)


Struggle for National Selfhood
INDUS SCROLLS PRESS
SWA: Struggle for National Selfhood
by Shri J Nandakumar
Shri Arun Kumar
Dr Meenakshi Jain
Shri Kanchan Gupta
Dr. Neerja Gupta
Prof. Shriprakash Singh
Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi

(L to R)I ndus Scrolls Managing Director G Sreedathan,National Convenor, Prajna Pravah, J Nandakumar, historian Dr Meenakshi Jain, RSS Sah Sarkaryavah Arun Kumar, Senior Advisor Ministry of I & B Kanchan Gupta , VC, Sanchi University of Buddhist Indic Studies, Dr Neeraja Gupta and Director, South Campus DU, Prof Shriprakash Singh realeasing the book

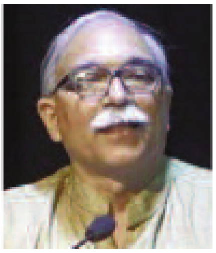
"TIME FOR INTROSPECTION AND SELF-CORRECTION": ARUN KUMAR

WHILE LAUNCHING THE BOOK 'SWA: STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL SELFHOOD PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE', RSS SAH SARKARYAVAH ARUN KUMAR SAID THAT WE SHOULD GO BEYOND THE BLAME GAME AND FORGET THE LEFTIST HISTORIANS, WHO DISTORTED HISTORY. NOW, WE MUST FOCUS ON BRINGING OUT THE TRUTH

In the book titled *SWA: Struggle for National Selfhood Past, Present and Future*, Shri Nandakumar surveys the entire freedom movement from a historical perspective to bring out an absorbing detail about the real motivation of our freedom fighters – to preserve and revitalise the "Swa", which signifies consciousness of our National selfhood.

"It's not time for blame. It is the time for introspection and self-correction. Instead of blaming the Leftists and other historians who distorted history, we must put dedicated efforts to bring out the truth. There is a need for a positive and constructive approach," said RSS Sah-Sarkaryavah Shri Arun Kumar, while speaking at the launch of the book, *SWA: Struggle for National Selfhood*, by Shri J Nandakumar, Prajna Pravah, National Convenor, at the Ambedkar International Centre on December 10, 2022.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Arun Kumar said that the English-educated Indians, who gained control over our institutions post-1911, reduced the idea of Independence (Swatantrata) to just self-rule (*Swadheenta*), and ended up accepting India's Partition. Shri Arun Kumar said the Islamic invaders destroyed India's social institutions, whereas the



> The English-educated Indians, who gained control over our institutions post-1911, reduced the idea of Independence (Swatantrata) to just self-rule (Swadheenta), and ended up accepting India's Partition.
>
> — Arun Kumar
>
> Sah-Sarkaryavah, RSS

A view of public gathering at the book launch

> The freedom movement was not mechanical or artificial but spiritual and moral. The battle was for selfhood. From Maharshi Aurobindo to Mahatma Gandhi, it was indeed a fight for selfhood
>
> — J Nandakumar
>
> National Convenor, Prajna Pravah

British ruined India's economy and tried to destroy its social fabric and values. "We were able to withstand the Islamic invasion only because our social system, economic system and family system remained intact." Shedding light on the book, Shri Arun Kumar said, "Nandakumarji ventured into writing the present volume after Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwatji advised him to expand a brief volume on the same topic. 'Swa' talks about two phases of the invasion that are the state of Bharat at the time of the arrival of colonial forces and the intensity of the crimes they've done. This book also gives an elaborate idea of our struggle for Swatantrata and Swaraj."

Pointing out that the book talks about the past, present and future of the Swaraj. Shri Kanchan Gupta, Senior Advisor to MIB, said, "Decolonising started happening in the 75th year of India's Independence. In fact, it should have started as soon as we got freedom," he said. "India has to rediscover India. That is where Aatmanirbhar Bharat comes in. It's about inculcating a sense of 'we can do it'. We have attained political freedom but not economic freedom. It's only now we have started realising the importance of economic freedom," Shri Kanchan Gupta added.

Quoting Sri Aurobindo, Shri J Nandakumar said that the freedom movement was not mechanical or artificial but spiritual and moral. The battle was for selfhood.

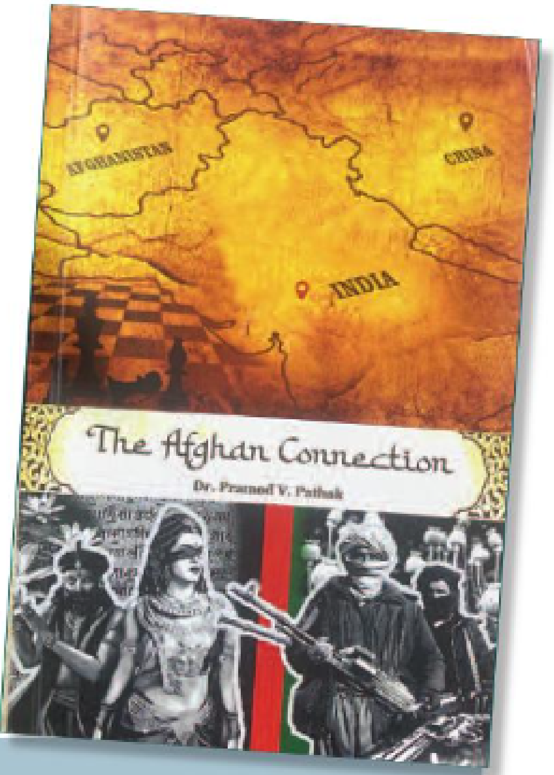
From Maharshi Aurobindo to Mahatma Gandhi, it was indeed a fight for selfhood, he added. "In his Vijayadasami speeches, Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwatji had called for a Swa-centric approach towards the history of our freedom movement. This 'Swa' is none other than Hindutva," Shri J Nandakumar said. Shri J Nandakumar further stated that the seed of the idea of writing the book came from Sarsanghachalak Shri Mohan Bhagwat. In *SWA: Struggle for National Selfhood*, Shri Nandakumar surveys the entire freedom movement from a historical perspective to bring out in absorbing detail the real motivation of our freedom fighters – to preserve and revitalise the "Swa", Consciousness of our National Selfhood. The book also provides readers a new template to view India's past. Renowned historian and author Dr Meenakshi Jain, Sanchi University of Buddhist Indic Studies VC Dr Neeraja Gupta, Director, South Campus of Delhi University Prof Shriprakash Singh, Indus Scrolls Managing Director G Sreedathan and prominent persons from various walks of life were present on the occasion.

–Organiser Bureau

DECODING THE VEDIC LINK BETWEEN INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN

IN HIS BOOK 'THE AFGHAN CONNECTION', DR PRAMOD V PATHAK DRAWS A PARALLEL BETWEEN THE ANCIENT VEDIC CIVILISATION OF INDIA AND THE VEDIC CULTURE PREVALENT IN ANCIENT AFGHANISTAN

■ **UTKARSH NIKOSHE**



Title: The Afghan Connection,
Author: Dr Pramod V Pathak,
Publisher: Bhishma Prakashan,
Pp 164, ₹ 299.00

A book titled *The Afghan Connection* authored by Dr Pramod V Pathak, a professional chemical engineer from The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-Mumbai) and a Ph. D. in Vedic Literature from Mumbai University, is a phenomenal work and can be considered a "magnum opus" by the reader. It has been published by Bhishma Prakashan, a prominent publishing house from the city of Pune in Maharashtra.

The author has been a visiting professor at the University of Houston, United States of America, and a consultant to the Government of Goa on the Plastic Free Goa Mission. The book has been well appreciated by Nitin Gokhale, a well-known national security analyst, media trainer and founder of Bharat Shakti.

This treatise by Dr Pathak draws a parallel between the ancient Vedic civilisation of India and the Vedic culture prevalent in ancient Afghanistan. The first part of this book deals with the five archaeological divisions of Afghanistan and the names of reputed British and American scholars and diplomats associated with excavations of various sites in Afghanistan. The most famous ones are Mundigak and Shahr-i-Sokhta.

The author has forged a strong connection and striking resemblance between various antiquities and symbols of Vedic Culture and artefacts obtained from archaeological excavations in Afghanistan. Some examples include Sacred Bull seals, fire temples, priest-king heads and altars and the import of Lapis Lazuli from Badakhshan in Afghanistan to India.

Other symbols such as Gandabherunda, and Indra Killing Vritra (Serpent Demon) have spread all across Europe and Russia. These symbols have inspired Christians and they have depicted their saints such as St George and St. Michael killing dragons. They wore lockets and necklaces depicting the same.

The author believes that Indus Culture was identical to Vedic Culture. The tectonic movements and subsequent drying up of the Sarasvati River have been the cause for the devolution of Indus Culture. Due to the presence of many deities, some factions adopted Monotheism and others adopted polytheism. One group went eastwards whereas the other group went westwards towards Afghanistan and Iran.

The book describes the major modern-day Afghan tribes and their relations with Rigvedic tribes dating from the historical Battle of Ten Kings. The word Afghan comes from the word *Avagana* in Vedic literature (Brihatsamhita). A new concept that came to my mind while reading this book was that Elphinstone, a British scholar, had linked these Afghan tribes with the lost ten tribes of the Old Testament in the Bible also called Ben-i-Israel.

According to Dr Pathak, the cyclonic storms in Afghanistan and their relation with the to three Rigvedic deities namely Apam Napat, Ahirbudhnya and Aja Ekpad. The Rigveda also mentions Maruts (wind gods) and they are always considered a plural entity.

The resistance put forward by the people of Vamasthana (Kapisa) against repeated coercive Islamic conversion attempts is mentioned in the 4th chapter of the book. This is very commendable. The inhabitants followed Vedic culture. The most popular deity of their pantheon was Imra (identical to Vedic Indra). It eventually fell to the rulers of Kabul, who renamed it Nuristan/ Kafiristan.

The 5th chapter mentions the location, geography and topography of the land of the *Dasas* which is identical to that of present-day Sistan. The author has described the formation of mounds (Butt formations) and how they are influenced by the soil erosion caused by the *Bad-I-Sad-o-Bist* (strong winds that blow in Afghanistan from May to September).

DR PRAMOD V PATHAK HOPES THAT PEACE WILL BE RESTORED SOON IN AFGHANISTAN. HE OPENLY DECLARED THAT ZEALOTS, EXTREMISTS, RADICALS AND BIGOTS SUCH AS THE TALIBAN AND HAQQANI NETWORK CAN NEVER UNITE PEOPLE AND ACHIEVE PROSPERITY

The most revered freedom fighter from Maharashtra Lokmanya Tilak had summarised the various stages of Vedic literature into four periods in his monumental work 'The Orion'. The two great epics *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata* are closely connected to ancient Afghanistan. (Gandhara and Kekaya). The author then describes the historical reign and period of Persian, Greek, Buddhist, Sakas and Hindu Shahi rulers in Afghanistan.

In the 7th Chapter, the author describes the Golden period of Afghanistan, which began in the Rigvedic era and ended after the defeat of Jayapal, the last Hindu Shahi ruler of Afghanistan at the hands of Mahmud of Ghazni. After the Islamisation of Afghanistan, the golden heritage went on a downward slide.

The book then narrates the modern history of Afghanistan from consolidation by Ahmed Shah Abdali, Soviet occupation and till the 2nd Taliban occupation on August 15th 2021 and the brutal punishments meted out to the Afghan people during their malevolent regime.

Towards the end, Dr Pramod V Pathak hopes that peace will be restored soon in Afghanistan. He openly declared that zealots, extremists, radicals and bigots such as the Taliban and Haqqani Network can never unite people and achieve prosperity.

The book is a marvellous piece of work which is a must-read for anyone interested in Vedic Research, Indology and Indic Studies. ■

DEFENCE SCAN
BY
AIR MSHL PK ROY (RETD)

RAKSHA MANTRI'S STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT ON CLASH IN TAWANG SECTOR

Speaking about the clash between troops of India and China, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said, on December 9, 2022, PLA troops tried to transgress the LAC in Yangtse area of Tawang sector and unilaterally change the status quo. "The Chinese attempt was contested by our troops in a firm and resolute manner. The ensuing face-off led to a physical scuffle in which the Indian Army bravely prevented the PLA from transgressing into our territory and compelled them to return to their posts. The scuffle led to injuries to a few personnel on both sides. I wish to share with this House that there are no fatalities or serious casualties on our side," he informed Parliamenttarian.

Due to timely intervention of Indian military commanders, PLA soldiers went back to their locations. As a follow-up of the incident, local Commander in the area held a Flag Meeting with his counterpart on 11th December 2022 to discuss the issue in accordance with established mechanisms. The Chinese side was asked to refrain from such actions and maintain peace and tranquillity along the border. The issue has also been taken up with the Chinese side through diplomatic channels.

I would like to assure this House that our Forces are committed to protecting our territorial integrity and will continue to thwart any attempt made on it. I am confident that this entire House will stand united in supporting our soldiers in their brave effort. Jai Hind!"

IAF TO CARRY OUT TRAINING EXERCISE IN EASTERN SECTOR

Representative pic

THE IAF has reportedly planned to carry out a training exercise in the eastern sector with the aim of checking the readiness of their aircraft. It has also been reported that during the recent clash at Yangtse, the Chinese side had operated their drones aggressively towards the Indian positions forcing the IAF to scramble its fighter aircraft deployed in the region.

INDO-KAZAKHSTAN JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE "KAZIND – 2022"

Pic from: KAZIND – 2021"
https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/kazakhstanarmy

THE 6th Edition of Indo - Kazakhstan joint training exercise "KAZIND-22" is scheduled to be conducted at Umroi (Meghalaya) from December 15 to 28, 2022. The Joint annual training exercise with the Kazakhstan Army was instituted in 2016 as Exercise Prabal Dostyk, which was later upgraded to a company–level exercise and renamed as Ex Kazind in 2018. The aim of exercise is to build positive military relations, imbibe each other's best practices and promote the ability to operate together while undertaking counter terrorist operations in semi urban / jungle scenario, under a UN peace enforcement mandate.

MOVING AWAY FROM THE COLONIAL PAST

The President of India has approved introduction of a new design for the President's Standard and Colour and Indian Navy Crest for the Indian Navy, which were unveiled at Visakhapatnam on the Navy Day. Resonant to the ongoing National endeavour to move away from the colonial past, the Naval Ensign was amended to a new design that draws inspiration from our history where in the Red Horizontal and Vertical Lines on the White Ensign were replaced with a Blue Octagon with Twin Golden Borders encompassing the National Emblem atop a clear anchor and 'Satyamev Jayate' inscribed on the stock of the Anchor. Further, the National Flag was retained on the upper left canton.

CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF VISIT TO SRI LANKA

The Admiral R Hari Kumar, Chief of Naval the Staff (CNS), visited Sri Lanka from December 13 to 16, 2022. During the visit, CNS interacted with senior political and defence leadership of the island nation, visited defence establishments of the Sri Lanka Armed Forces and reviewed progress of various bilateral defence cooperation activities.

39TH EDITION OF INDIA-INDONESIA COORDINATED PATROL

The 39th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol between the Indian Navy and the Indonesian Navy is being conducted from December 8th to 19th, 2022. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette participated in the pre-deployment briefing at Belawan, Indonesia.

IAF ALLOWS WOMEN TO JOIN GARUD COMMANDO FORCE

Media reports indicate that the IAF has allowed women officers to join its special forces unit, the Garud Commando Force, to promote gender equality within its ranks, provided they meet the criteria for selection. The Indian Navy has already announced its policy to serve as marine commandos (MARCOS) provided they make the cut for selection.

IAF TO OPEN DOORS OF AIRCRAFT AND SYSTEMS TESTING ESTABLISHMENT FOR PRIVATE SECTOR

The Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE), the top training and testing centre of the IAF, will open doors for the private sector. ASTE conducts flight testing of aircraft, airborne systems and weapons before induction into the IAF. Now ASTE will also provide its facilities to the private companies. Further, even if the systems being developed are not procured in India, ASTE will help private firms market their systems overseas.

(Courtesy Indian Defence News)

RFI FOR 91 HIGH MOBILITY RECONNAISSANCE VEHICLES

Pic Courtesy: https://raksha-anirveda.com/indian-army-to-procure-protected-high-mobility-vehicles-for-difficult-terrains

RFI for acquiring 91 High Mobility Reconnaissance Vehicles for mechanized forces through the mechanism of Fast Track Procedure under Buy (Indian) category has been issued by the Indian Army. ■

Dr UJWALA CHAKRADEO

Vice Chancellor
SNDT Women's University

DEVOTION IS ETERNAL

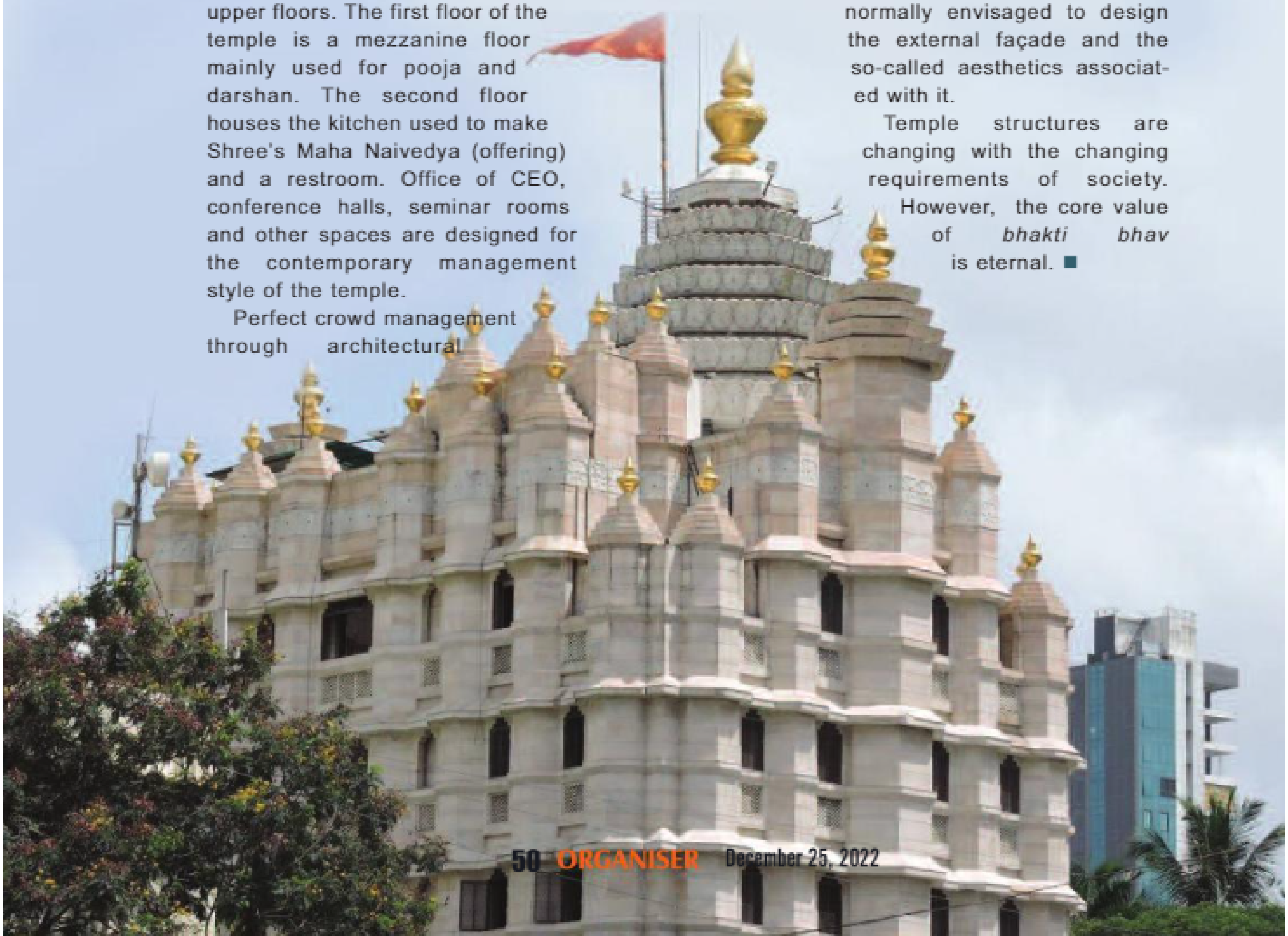
SIDDHIVINAYAK TEMPLE IN MUMBAI ATTRACTS MILLIONS OF DEVOTEES. WHILE THE TEMPLE STRUCTURE WAS RENOVATED THREE DECADES AGO, THE CORE VALUE OF BHAKTI BHAV REMAINS ETERNAL

One of the most famous temples of Ganesh in Maharashtra is the Siddhivinayak temple in Mumbai. Considered to be a rich temple, millions of *Bhaktas* visit the temple every year. The earlier temple structure is said to be 200-years-old. The temple was completely renovated in 1990. Spaces on the ground floor are created for the gathering of large masses and for the pooja at various levels. However, unlike any other temple of India the spaces required for *Mahaprasad* distribution and kitchen are on the upper floors. The first floor of the temple is a mezzanine floor mainly used for pooja and darshan. The second floor houses the kitchen used to make Shree's Maha Naivedya (offering) and a restroom. Office of CEO, conference halls, seminar rooms and other spaces are designed for the contemporary management style of the temple.

Perfect crowd management through architectural spaces is demonstrated in this temple structure. The architectural expression and the elevation of the temple are fully blocked by the canopies and covered surrounding open spaces. The courtyard is full of small shops of pooja material vendors.

As one approaches the temple, it is only the crowd that is seen and experienced. This is the scenario in most of the famous temples of India. The role of an architect in such temple design is to manage the fast movement of the crowd and not as normally envisaged to design the external façade and the so-called aesthetics associated with it.

Temple structures are changing with the changing requirements of society. However, the core value of *bhakti bhav* is eternal. ■



आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

सर्वाधिक मेडिकल कॉलेज (65 संचालित 22 निर्माणाधीन)

डबल इंजन की सरकार - विकास की दोगुनी रफ़्तार

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

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विशेषताएं

- 25 निवेश फ्रेंडली नीतियां
- सिंगल विंडो पोर्टल 'निवेश मित्र' के माध्यम से 355 सेवाएं ऑनलाइन उपलब्ध
- 'ईज ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस' रैंकिंग में अग्रणी राज्य
- सर्वाधिक उपभोक्ताओं वाला प्रदेश
- 6 एक्सप्रेसवे, 5 इंटरनेशनल एयरपोर्ट
- 9 एयरपोर्ट संचालित व 10 एयरपोर्ट निर्माणाधीन
- 5 शहरों में मेट्रो संचालित एवं 5 शहरों में निर्माणाधीन/प्रस्तावित
- सर्वाधिक एम.एस.एम.ई. इकाइयों वाला राज्य
- इंडस्ट्रियल लैण्ड बैंक
- ग्लोबल डेटा सेंटर हब एवं एजुकेशन व मेडिकल हब बनने की ओर अग्रसर
- निर्बाध विद्युत आपूर्ति
- प्रचुर जल संसाधन
- खाद्यान्न, दुग्ध, चीनी, आलू व एथनॉल उत्पादन में देश में प्रथम

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

नोडल एजेंसी